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ARAB TIMES

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Tareq Aziz still insists on direct talks

Iraq and Iran want an end to war: UN chief

UNITED NATIONS, July 27, (Reuters): Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said today after talks with both sides in the Gulf war that Iran and Iraq are interested in ending the conflict and he wants the earliest possible ceasefire.

He told reporters the question of the Western hostages being held by suspected pro-Iran elements in Lebanon had not come up in the talks but he intended to raise it.

Perez de Cuellar made his remarks as he arrived at the United Nations after an hour-long meeting with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Aziz, who visited the UN headquarters later for a meeting with the president of the UN Security Council, told reporters Iraq would not be "stampeded to reach or make a hasty step under the present circumstances."

He again called for face-to-face talks with his Iranian counterpart, Ali Akbar Velayati, who had two meetings over three hours yesterday with Perez de Cuellar.

Different

Noting that Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini had said Iran's acceptance of a Security Council ceasefire resolution was like taking poison, Aziz said: "For Iraq, we feel that peace is good, for the Iraqi people and for the Iranian people and for the whole world."

"We have basically a different approach towards peace."

Iraq wanted to be sure while he was in New York that "we are making real peace, durable and comprehensive peace," Aziz said.

He made his remarks in a statement but declined to answer reporters' questions before seeing Security Council president Paulo Nogueira-Batista, the chief delegate of Brazil.

A second meeting with Perez de Cuellar was also scheduled. Aziz said: "We shall seek guarantees and we believe that the first step and the starter for constructive work is face-to-face negotiations between the two parties under the auspices of the secretary-general."

Accept

"If the Iranians do not accept that formula, that means that they are not sincere about peace and we shall still remember what their leader said."

In his remarks, Perez de Cuellar said he had had a very useful discussion with Aziz. It was understood they met at the secretary-general's Manhattan residence.

He called it a preliminary discussion, like the one he had with Velayati yesterday.

He found there was a real interest in helping him in his peace efforts, Perez de Cuellar said.

"I think one can say that both parties are interested in putting an end to this conflict and then, of course, it is my duty to work very closely with them in order to achieve positive results as soon as possible," he said.

Asked if he still hoped for a ceasefire in a week or so, Perez de Cuellar said: "This is my wish, of course, but as you know I have to wait for the arrival of the leader

of the team which is now in the area."

He was referring to Lieutenant General Martin Vadset of Norway, who is leading a UN team of military officers now in Iran to work out details of a UN-supervised truce. The team is due in Baghdad later in the week and Vadset is expected to come to New York shortly afterwards.

Asked about the Western hostages held by suspected pro-Iran elements in Lebanon, the secretary-general said he intended to raise this matter in the exercise of his good offices.

It was a parallel issue to the truce talks, but that was no reason for not raising it with the Iranians, he said.

"I think they may exercise their positive influence in order to have this problem out of the way, both for political and humanitarian reasons," he added.

Velayati said yesterday the question of hostages in Lebanon was a Lebanese issue, but Iran would continue to do its best on their behalf as a humanitarian matter.

"And we do hope that all innocent people, as hostages, in Lebanon or any place in the world, could be released very soon," Velayati said.

Perez de Cuellar said: "I hope that both countries now have accepted the resolution (of the Security Council) and they are obliged to work with me in order to obtain the full implementation of that resolution. That is their duty."

On the question of possible face-to-face talks between Iran and Iraq, he said it was not for him to impose that on either side. Both must first agree to direct talks, he said.



Perez de Cuellar (left) and Velayati at the United Nations. (Reuters wirephoto)

Baghdad troops repel attack

BAGHDAD, July 27, (Reuters): Iraq said today it had repelled an Iranian attack in the southern war front, inflicting heavy losses on the attackers in men and equipment.

The daily high command communique said Iranian soldiers attacked Iraq's Third Army Corps positions but were confronted with "our intensive fire which inflicted on them heavy losses and forced the rest to flee."

It said an Iranian F-5 fighter-bomber was downed by anti-aircraft gunners and was seen falling in flames inside Iranian territory.

The Third Army Corps defends the area east of the southern port city of Basra.

The Baghdad communique said Iraqi warplanes and helicopter gunships today flew 278 sorties and combat missions and knocked out a US-made Hawk anti-aircraft missile battery east of the Karoun river and a field headquarters. All the aircraft returned safely to base, it added.

IRNA said Iranian forces had driven the Iraqis out from areas in the southern border strip and recaptured 30 sq km (12 sq miles) of territory.

Promised

Iraq made a thrust into Iran's southern area during last Friday's offensive to regain Iraqi territory and capture prisoners of war (POWs) and announced later it had withdrawn its troops from the area.

Iraq withdrew troops from the Iranian towns of Gilan-e-Gharb and Salehabad and Colan village in the central sector yesterday and promised to withdraw from the towns of Qasr-e-Shirin, Sar-e-Pol-e-Zahab, Sumar, Serni and Amirabad.

The communique said Friday's offensive, mainly in the southern and central sections of the war front, resulted in capturing 12,207 Iranian soldiers.

An Iranian military commander said today Iraqi forces were planning a fresh offensive on the southern war front and called for more volunteer fighters.

"Our intelligence shows that the enemy will soon mount a new attack on Khuzestan province around Bostan," Rahim Safavi, Revolutionary Guards commander on the southern sector, told Iranian television by telephone.

The Iraq-based Mujahdeen-e-Khalq said its National Liberation Army (NLA) downed two Iranian F-4 fighter-bombers and a Cobra helicopter and routed an Iranian bid to retake the town of Eslamabad.

A Tehran military communique today said Iraqi troops and irregulars had forced their way back into the town after Iranian forces had recaptured it yesterday.

Advance

The communique said fierce fighting was raging in the town. Iran has accused Iraq of bringing up Iranian rebels to back its thrust into Iran, one of the deepest penetrations of the eight-year-old war. Baghdad denied the charge.

An NLA spokesman in Baghdad said Eslamabad "is under the control of the NLA fighters and all claims by the Iranian regime to the contrary are false."

"The Khomeini regime is panicking severely, trying to dispatch as many troops as possible to stop our advance," he said.

The NLA said yesterday its men were advancing on Kerman-shah, called Bakhtaran by Iran, a provincial capital 50 km (30 miles) northeast of Eslamabad.

The NLA spokesman said Tehran had cancelled all routine activities and declared a state of (Continued on Page 2)

Iran had secret talks with rebels

SECRET reconciliation talks have taken place between the Iranian opposition group Mujahdeen-e-Khalq and representatives of Hashemi Rafsanjani over the past three months, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported yesterday.

The paper said the contacts were to pave the way for a meeting between Masoud Rajavi, leader of Mujahdeen-e-Khalq, and an aide of Ahmad Khomeini in Bern, Switzerland. Ahmad is the son of the supreme religious leader of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini.

However, according to the report attributed to unnamed "well-informed sources," Rafsanjani suspended the talks when the Mujahdeen-e-Khalq launched an attack on Iranian territory 40 days ago to affect the course of the negotiations.

"You, like the hawks in the regime, are blocking my work aimed at restoring rationalism to Iran and halting bloodshed," Rafsanjani was quoted as telling Rajavi in a letter after the attack.

Demand

The paper quoted the sources as saying that Mujahdeen-e-Khalq had confirmed knowledge that the Iranian leadership was about to accept UN Security Council Resolution 598 providing for a ceasefire to its almost eight-year-old war with Iraq.

It said the opposition group demanded during the talks that a political declaration be issued to endorse national reconciliation among Islamic and other nationalist groups that had participated in toppling the Shah before falling out among themselves.

It also demanded a pledge to release all mujahdeen prisoners and the convening of a national reconciliation conference, the report said.

An item under discussion was the departure of Rajavi from Iraq, where he has based himself, to a European capital as a prelude to returning to Tehran when the power settles with the moderates, the report said.

Soviets may be accepted

WASHINGTON, July 27, (Reuters): The United States might accept Soviet participation in a Gulf peacekeeping force despite its opposition to Soviet influence in that region, US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said today.

Carlucci also said US allies in the Gulf support Washington's view that Western Navies should keep protecting shipping in the strategic oil lanes until Iran and Iraq agree to a ceasefire in their almost eight-year-old war.

Murphy wants to meet Palestinians during Mideast visit

WASHINGTON, July 27, (Agencies): A senior American diplomat said today he intends to meet Palestinian representatives next week in the Middle East, but denied the United States is contemplating changes in its ban on negotiations with the PLO.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was responding to comments by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who said the United States is ready to hold talks with the PLO members who are not prominent in the organisation.

"I hope to have meetings with Palestinians" during a Middle East tour, which starts next week, Murphy told reporters. But "there is no dramatic new initiative under way," he added.

Prospects

Murphy said no venue had yet been set for the meetings. He plans to visit Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Syria, following a meeting in Geneva with Soviet envoy Vladimir Polyakov. The trip is designed to assess, among other things, prospects for bringing Arabs and Israelis to the negotiating table.

Mubarak said in an interview with the state-owned weekly Al-Mussawwar that Murphy's meetings will be held either in Cairo or Amman. Mubarak said Murphy wants to meet with Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied territories and from other countries.

Asked the purpose of Murphy's trip, Mubarak said: "It seems the Americans want to explore our views about a meeting between them and the Palestinians..."

He said Egypt was willing to arrange for the US assistant secretary of state to meet less senior PLO members and representatives of Palestinians in the Israel-occupied territories if King Hussein of Jordan rejected Amman as a venue.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters at his daily briefing yesterday that Murphy would be making the trip, but he was not sure when.

Efforts

Mubarak also said he was ready to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir if the Jewish leader agreed to an international Middle East peace conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"It is meaningless for us to meet without prior agreement on basic points... to meet merely to exchange views... and embrace in public is rejected," he said.

Mubarak, accusing Shamir of blocking efforts to convene a UN-sponsored peace conference, has declined to meet him since he became prime minister in 1986.

But he has twice held talks in



Murphy

the same period with Shamir's political rival, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who backs such a conference.

"I will be ready to meet Shamir if he makes a positive move towards convening the international conference," Mubarak said. "This is my condition for my meeting Shamir."

Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Boutros Boutros Ghali, was quoted by the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) as saying the United States could lay the groundwork for progress towards Middle East peace.

"We see in this (US) initiative the possibility of movement in the Middle East problem and of benefitting from the revolution of the Palestinian people," he told KUNA in Moscow, where he is on an official visit.

Protests

The United States, spurred by violent Palestinian protests against Israeli rule of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, has proposed holding an international conference followed by direct Arab-Israeli talks.

Boutros Ghali, who described Egypt's relations with Israel as a "cold peace," denounced Israel for what he called its "aggression against the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and violation of the sanctity of human rights."

Murphy warns Congress

WASHINGTON, July 27, (KUNA): Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East Richard Murphy warned the US Congress here today that refusal to sell Kuwait a \$1.9 billion arms package will have a serious and negative impact on US interests in the Gulf region.

"It would undermine our national interests in the Gulf region over the long-term as well as have an immediate negative impact upon relations with Kuwait," said Murphy.

PLO account of hostage crisis refuted

WASHINGTON, July 27, (Reuters): President Reagan's chief spokesman has dismissed Palestinian allegations that the Reagan camp played politics with the Iranian hostage crisis during the 1980 presidential race.

"This story has been around for years," spokesman Martin Fitzwater said at his daily news briefing. "It comes up from the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) and Iranian sources every once and a while and it's a lie."

Fitzwater was responding to an interview in September's Playboy magazine in which a top PLO official charged that a highly placed Reagan campaign aide sought the group's help in delaying the release of 52 American hostages being held in Tehran until after the US presidential election.

"We have the proof if it is denied... I personally assure you that if the Reagan administration denies what I have said, we will turn this evidence over to you," Bassam Abu Sharif, a top adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, said.

The Iranian hostage crisis, which was not resolved until Jan 20, 1981 — the day Reagan entered the White House — was in large part responsible for the political downfall of the man he replaced, President Jimmy Carter.

Arafat 'endorses' Abu Sharif's views

WASHINGTON, July 27, (KUNA): The PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has partially endorsed for the first time the views expressed recently in an article by his political adviser Bassam Abu Sharif.

Arafat made the endorsement in an interview with the Playboy magazine.

"We repeat our offer here, through this interview, in your magazine," Arafat says. "Let us work for peace... so that we can build for our children a secure future..."

Clarify

Arafat said that the PLO is ready to recognise Israel "only within international legalities."

Asked to clarify this, the PLO leader said: "When I say international legality, I mean the legality of the United Nations' resolutions. The UN is the international body. These various UN resolutions dealing with the Palestine issue cannot be taken separately. They cannot be divided. We accept the resolutions in total — we accept what we like and what we do not like."

He explained: "When it comes to Resolution 181, which created the state of Israel, we do take that resolution and accept it as a unit. Not only the item which calls for the creation of a Jewish state, but also the item which calls for the establishment of a Palestinian



Arafat

state. The Israelis accept only parts of these resolutions. They choose the parts they will accept."

Arafat also disclosed that, contrary to official US policy, he has been contacted directly and secretly by representatives of several administrations — including Henry Kissinger, former President Carter and UN Ambassador Vernon Walters — for his help in protecting American citizens.

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امریکی کی پالیسی

○ امریکی کی پالیسی
○ رابطہ برآمدگی
○ اقوام متحدہ میں جنگ بندی
○ پڑا کرکات
○ امریکی نے ایرانی تجویز
○ مسترد کردی
○ بھارتی صوبہ گجرات میں
○ پولیس مظاہرے
○ اسرائیل امریکی کی مدد سے
○ نائیجیریا میں بے گناہ
○ بچوں و خواتین کے صفحات
○ اور فلمی اشاعت

WEATHER

HUMID weather with light southeasterly wind and temperature will be around normal.

State of sea: slight to moderate

High water: 10.00 pm

Low water: 4.00 am, 6.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.06 am

Sunset: 6.43 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 45°C 113°F

Ahmad: 43°C 109°F

Falaka: 41°C 106°F

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 29°C 84°F

Ahmad: 31°C 88°F

Falaka: 32°C 90°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 44°C 111°F

Ahmad: 42°C 108°F

Falaka: 40°C 104°F

Minimum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 35 per cent

Ahmad: 38 per cent

Falaka: 42 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 43 per cent

Ahmad: 48 per cent

Falaka: 52 per cent

US rebuffs Tehran's proposal on hostages

WASHINGTON, July 27, (Agencies): The United States, vowing "no deals" with Tehran, has rebuffed an Iranian proposal to help free US hostages held in Lebanon in exchange for the release of frozen Iranian assets.

US officials say the nine Americans held captive by pro-Iranian groups should be turned loose unconditionally.

"Tell them... if they want to send us a signal of goodwill — release the hostages," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters yesterday.

He was reacting to a statement by Iranian military chief Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani that Iran would consider helping to free the American hostages if Iranian assets were unfrozen.

"If they have influence to release the hostages, they should do so," Fitzwater said. "We will not negotiate or pay ransom for hostages — no deals."

Dealings

A State Department spokesman added that the US policy of not dealing to free the hostages — a policy breached in the Iran arms scandal — was firm.

The disclosure in late 1986 of clandestine US arms sales to Iran, an initiative that investigators said involved an arms-

for-hostages swap, plunged President Reagan into his worst political crisis.

Rafsanjani, in a speech on Iranian television, urged the Reagan administration to make a "tangible gesture" to show its willingness to negotiate with Tehran.

His remarks occurred just two days after Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, the spiritual guide of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, called for a happy ending to the captivity of at least 18 Westerners in Lebanon.

Help

Thirteen Muslim leaders in Britain appealed today to Middle Eastern states and factions to help win the release of hostages held in Lebanon, saying no one can remain neutral in such a serious situation.

The Muslim leaders, who plan to send their message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and others, estimated that at least 400 hostages, including 22 foreigners, are being held in Lebanon.

They said it was the first time Muslim leaders in Britain, had spoken out jointly against the kidnappings.

Americans poor in geography

WASHINGTON, July 27, (AP): Three out of four Americans who took a geographic literacy test couldn't locate the Arabian Gulf, most had no idea of the US population and the majority were lost when it came to finding Britain, France or Japan.

The test, conducted this spring by the Gallup organisation, ranked Americans sixth in geographic literacy compared with their counterparts in eight other countries. Of young adults in all nine countries, Americans scored last.

"What was most alarming was (Continued on Page 2)

Sri Lankan commits suicide in police station

By Naser Al Tameemi

A SRI Lankan has committed suicide by hanging himself inside the bathroom of the Sabahiya police station.

Sources said that the man whose name was not revealed, was arrested for theft and during interrogations allegedly confessed.

When he was sent to the detention room of the police station he cut a part of a blanket, went to the bathroom and hung himself from the bathroom flush.

In another incident, a man claiming to be the "Hero of Al

Daher" used a hunting rifle to shoot and wound a friend, who is being treated in a hospital. Later, the "hero" took his family members hostage in his house and threatened to kill them if there was outside interference.

Special forces surrounded the house and after failing to convince the man to surrender, stormed the house and arrested him. No one was hurt in the operation.

The man has been found to be suffering from psychological disorders and the general prosecution remanded him to 21 days in jail for investigation.

UK may send envoy to Iran

LONDON, July 27, (AP): Britain is considering sending a diplomat back to Tehran following Iran's acceptance of a United Nations ceasefire, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

"We are in a new phase in our relations and are considering whether that slot in Tehran should be filled, even on a temporary basis," said a Foreign Office spokesman.

INTERNATIONAL

Curfew clamped on Palestinian camp

Strike paralyses Gaza Strip

GAZA, July 27. (Reuters): Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip staged a protest strike today and the Army clamped a curfew on the area's largest refugee camp, where a 13-year-old girl died in earlier clashes.

Israeli troops confined all 55,000 residents to their homes in Jabalya camp, where the girl was shot during a confrontation between the Army and demonstrators last night.

The incident raised the death toll to 245 Palestinians and four Israelis since an uprising started seven months ago against Israel's 21-year-old occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Palestinians said the girl died after being shot in the stomach. The Army said it had not yet determined the cause of death because the girl's family took her body straight from Gaza's Shifa Hospital for burial.

All stores closed in the Gaza Strip, most Palestinian labourers

employed in Israel failed to report for work and public transport was at a standstill. The strike had been announced earlier in the week.

The 42,000 residents of Sha'ti refugee camp in Gaza remained under curfew following earlier violence.

Underground leaders of the uprising, in their latest leaflet, targeted Friday for the next general strike. In the West Bank, it was mainly business as usual.

Sabotage

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has accused his right-wing adversaries of inspiring a seven-month Palestinian uprising by sabotaging a US-Middle East peace initiative.

Differences centered on the peace proposals of US Secretary of State George Shultz.

"If it weren't for the sabotage of the peace process, of the Shultz initiative, by half the govern-

ment, then maybe we wouldn't be in the middle of the intifadah," Peres said, using the Arabic word for "uprising."

But Likud Bloc legislator Dan Meridor, a close associate of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, signalled flexibility about negotiations on the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He was quoted today by the daily Jerusalem Post as saying in a speech that even those who supported Peres' proposals for territorial compromise should vote for Likud in the November election because it would drive a harder bargain.

Mistake

"We must send to the negotiations those who will get the best results," said Meridor.

"Who do those who are concerned for Israel's security prefer to send to negotiations — those who want to get rid of the

territories or those who will insist on every square inch and get the best compromise?"

Meridor was also quoted as suggesting it may have been a mistake to hold on to occupied Gaza Strip, which was captured from Egypt in 1967.

Seven opposition parties filed motions of no confidence today in Shamir's coalition government, some citing Shamir's failure to put down the Palestinian uprising. The motions were not expected to pass.

Most of the legislature's infighting was between the two large parties, Labour and Likud, which began their election debate on the Palestinian issue in a rowdy meeting of the legislature's defence and foreign affairs committee on Tuesday.

The two-hour meeting also digressed into a shouting match between Peres and Likud legislator Elihu Ben-Elissar, also a former ambassador to Egypt.

French family on voyage into the past

SUEZ, Egypt, July 27. (Reuters): A French family in a wooden boat designed from Pharaonic reliefs dating back some 3,500 years sailed on Tuesday from Egypt's Suez Port on a voyage into the past.

The Pharaonic vessel with a lotus-flower stern left the Suez Canal in the wake of a convoy of huge tankers and headed slowly for Djibouti, the first leg of an 18-month journey round Africa to prove it was possible in Pharaonic times.

"We are excited and we are happy to leave Egypt," Andre Gil-Argagnan, captain and builder of the 20-metre (65-foot) vessel told Reuters.

After a five-hour delay to get exit papers in order, Andre, his wife Nady, his two children and crew of six — two each from Sudan, France and Djibouti — finally set out in the late afternoon sun for Djibouti, believed to be site of the mystical land of Pount.

We should be in Djibouti in about 40 or 45 days," said Nady as she turned the wooden rudder and helped Andre guide the 40-tonne vessel out of the waterway.



Andre Gil-Argagnan, his wife Nady and their two children wave goodbye as they prepare to leave Suez harbour on a trip around Africa on board the 'Pount.' (Reuters wire photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Secret speech'

WARSAW, July 27. (UPI): The Polish weekly newspaper Polityka today printed the full text of Nikita Khrushchev's 1956 "secret speech" denouncing Stalin, for the first time in the Soviet bloc — including the country where it was given.

"After 32 years, we can print the text of this report," the intellectual weekly of the Communist Party said in an article accompanying the 20,000-word report.

Birthday dip

MOSCOW, July 27. (Reuters): An American man swam along the Moscow river to the Kremlin to celebrate his 40th birthday today, then hopped on a plane for two more dips in New York and San Francisco before the end of the day.

David Horning, from Berkeley, California, swam 6-1/2 km (four miles) along the river from Lenin stadium to the bank opposite the Kremlin. He was accompanied by a Soviet patrol boat.

Reagan assures

WASHINGTON, (AP): President Reagan recently reassured deposed Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle of US efforts to restore democracy in his country, but no new action has been taken against Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, Reagan's spokesman said.

Tinsulanonda

BANGKOK, (AP): Prem Tinsulanonda, the longest-serving prime minister in modern Thai history, has turned down an offer for another term in office, political party officials said.

Heaviest loss

ISLAMABAD, (AP): Soviet forces are reported to have suffered their heaviest loss since a UN-brokered withdrawal from Afghanistan began May 15, Western diplomats said.

Americans

poor in

geography

(Continued from Page 1)

not only that young Americans did worse than all other 18- to 24-year-olds, but that they were the only ones in that age group, among nine countries, who did worse than the oldest group tested.

A separate Gallup survey of a larger sample of Americans found comparable ignorance of geography, but high awareness of environmental issues. Almost all were aware of the global ozone problem and more than two-thirds knew of the acid rain problem in North America.

The international survey, commissioned by the Geographic Society, tested 10,820 adults in Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States and West Germany. Those surveyed were asked to locate 13 selected countries, Central America, the Pacific Ocean and the Arabian Gulf on an unmarked world map.

Dukakis has a 14-point lead over Bush

BOSTON, Massachusetts, July 27. (UPI): A national poll taken after the Democratic national convention showed Michael Dukakis had a commanding 14-point lead Tuesday over Republican presidential rival George Bush, a significant jump from a survey two weeks ago that put Dukakis ahead by only 6 points.

The Gallup Poll, reported by WEEI Radio, the Boston Globe and WCVB-TV Channel 5 in Boston, showed 54 per cent of registered voters favoured the Democratic nominee. Of the 1,001 registered voters surveyed, 37 per cent opted for the Vice President.

Nine per cent of the voters surveyed between Friday and Sunday were undecided. The poll has a margin of error of 3 points.

According to the poll, Dukakis' popularity took a considerable leap after the Atlanta convention, where the Massachusetts Governor reached a truce with Democratic rival Jesse Jackson.

US directs sweep for hashish ring

MIAMI, July 27. (Reuters): US authorities are orchestrating an international sweep for a suspected ring of "gentlemen smugglers" whose vast hashish and marijuana smuggling network was said to have been smashed with the help of a British lord.

Police in four nations have arrested 10 suspects, including the alleged British ringleader and his top lieutenant, who were charged in a Miami federal indictment with running one of the world's largest smuggling organizations. Twelve others were still being sought in Thailand, Spain and Britain.

Lord Anthony Moynihan, 52-year-old half brother of British Sports Minister Colin Moynihan, was under 24-hour protection by federal agents at a secret location in the United States after he played a crucial role as an undercover informant, US law-enforcement sources said.

US drug agents have dubbed the suspects "gentlemen smugglers" because of their involvement with British nobility and their non-violent methods in a business where murder and strong-arm tactics are the rule.

"They used cleverness instead of violence," said Jack Hook, spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration in Miami.

The alleged mastermind was Dennis Marks, 43, an Oxford University graduate who one law-enforcement official dubbed the "Marco Polo of drug trafficking" for his purported success in the building a bridge between the drug producers of the Orient and the consumers of the West.

Marks, his wife Judith, 33, and fellow Briton Geoffrey Kenyon, 46, were arrested on Monday on Spain's Mediterranean island of Majorca at the request of the United States, which is seeking their extradition.

A spokesman for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said John Denbigh was arrested on Monday at a hotel in Vancouver, British Columbia.

A US law-enforcement source said the ring was so bold in the early 1970s it infiltrated the touring crews of big-time rock bands, including a group led by British rock star Eric Clapton, and smuggled hashish in giant sound speakers.

Expelled Armenian seeking US asylum

MOSCOW, July 27. (AP): An Armenian activist expelled from the Soviet Union is in Ethiopia trying to arrange refuge in the United States for himself and his family, relatives and friends reported today.

Paruyr Ayrikyan was flown to the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa a week ago, after American and other Western diplomats refused to grant him asylum without a personal appeal for refugee, the sources confirmed.

An Armenian exile who left the Soviet Union 28 years ago told the Associated Press by telephone from Addis Ababa that Ayrikyan was banished to Ethiopia last week and brought to the Armenian community for help in resettling.

"Everyone is helping him, there's no need to worry," said Theresa Masras, an Armenian married to an Ethiopian businessman.

She said Ayrikyan was not available for comment because he was at the US Embassy in Addis Ababa trying to arrange a visa for the United States.

Ayrikyan, who gained notoriety earlier this year when he kept Moscow-based Western reporters informed about an Armenian campaign for control of the Nagorno-Karabakh region in neighbouring Azerbaijan, had been in jail in the Armenian capital of Yerevan for four months prior to this expulsion last week.

He called Moscow from the Masras' home late last night to let family members know what had happened to him, said Nina Sidorenko, his mother-in-law.

She said Ayrikyan had been taken by Soviet agents to Ethiopia after US and other Western diplomats refused to give him asylum without his personal request.

British Parliament begins summer break

Thatcher off on overseas trip

LONDON, July 27. (Reuters): When Britain's parliament begins its long summer break on Friday, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will fly half-way round the world, visiting 11 cities in six countries in 12 days.

As her political colleagues head for homes and holidays, Thatcher can reflect on one of the most crowded legislative sessions in recent years when she flies to Australia.

En route to Perth, in western Australia, she will stop off for talks in Bahrain, Oman and Singapore.

During five days in Australia, she will cross the continent to meet flying doctors in the central town of Alice Springs, visit the new parliament building in the capital Canberra and mark the country's bicentenary celebrations in Brisbane.

She will also go to Melbourne

and Sydney where she will attend business lunches and visit a submarine training school.

On her journey home, Thatcher will stop in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur and then in Thailand, where she will fly by helicopter to a refugee camp near the border with Kampuchea. She will then take a rare morning off for sightseeing in Bangkok.

The more than 21,000-mile (33,600 km) marathon is one of the longest trips both in distance and duration the British Prime Minister has made.

But its punishing schedule of long days and early starts is standard for the 62-year-old Prime Minister, who relishes being busy. She has already travelled this year to Kenya, Nigeria, Belgium, Canada, Turkey and West Germany.

Other trips scheduled before Christmas are Spain, Poland, the

United States and Greece.

Asked why she insisted on cramming her programme with engagements, an aide said: "She doesn't like hanging around."

Back home next month Thatcher will take her only break for the year, a 10-day walking holiday in the southwestern county of Cornwall with husband Denis.

She interrupted their holiday in August last year to make a helicopter trip to the town of Hungerford, west of London, after a gunman went on a rampage and killed 16 people.

Before parliament returns from its 12-week break in October, Thatcher will attend the ruling Conservative Party's annual conference at the Grand Hotel in Brighton, where she survived an Irish Republican Army (IRA) bomb blast during the party's 1984 meeting.

Baghdad troops repel attack

(Continued from Page 1)

emergency because of the NLA offensive.

A large number of Iranian soldiers have joined us with their weapons," he said. "Residents of the towns of Karand and Eslamabad welcomed our arrival and refused to leave their places."

Denied

The spokesman said some Iranian soldiers who failed to defend the Revolutionary Guards garrison captured by the NLA had been freed.

He gave no figures for NLA casualties, but denied a Tehran report yesterday that 1,100 were killed in Eslamabad.

Jordan's relations with Palestinians may change

LONDON, July 27. (Reuters): Jordanian Prime Minister Zeid Al Rifa'i was quoted today as saying Jordan was considering changes in its relations with the Palestinians.

The Saudi-owned Asharq Al Awsat quoted Rifa'i as saying "decisive" steps could be taken next week that would reflect Jordan's wish to implement Arab summit decisions and the wishes of the PLO.

Position

On Monday, political sources in Amman said King Hussein was planning changes that might include a cabinet reshuffle, a downgrading of the Ministry of Israeli-occupied Territories and a dissolution of the lower house of Parliament.

Rifa'i said he was not in a position to confirm that the changes could include a dissolution of the lower house of Parliament, half of whose members come from the occupied West Bank.

"You will have to wait until next week, which will be decisive for any possible steps," he added. The newspaper quoted PLO official Salah Khalaf as saying its chairman, Yasser Arafat, would visit Amman in the first week of August.

Political sources said on Monday the changes would represent a reappraisal of the country's policy toward the occupied territories following the seven-month-old Palestinian revolt against Israeli rule there.

OBITUARY



We deeply mourn the demise of our colleague Rahnasabathil Yoganathan (YOGA). We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

May his soul rest in peace.
Staff of
Executive Aircraft Services
Kuwait Airways

Slovenian journalists jailed

LJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia, July 27. (AP): A military court today sentenced three prominent Slovenian journalists to prison terms ranging from five to 18 months on charges of revealing a military secret, friends of the accused said.

An army sergeant-major, who allegedly leaked a classified document to the journalists, was given four years in jail by the military court in Ljubljana, capital of Yugoslavia's most liberal republic Slovenia.

Journalists Janez Jansa, David Tasic and Franci Zavrl, along with Ivan Borstner, the non-commissioned army officer, were sentenced for revealing a document dealing with the deployment and combat readiness of army units in the republic.

Jansa, a columnist of the outspoken Mladina youth newspaper and Zavrl, chief editor of the same magazine, received 18 months each. Tasic, a journalist for the weekly, was sentenced to five months, a spokesman for an unofficial committee in defense of the trio told the Associated Press.

The closed-door trial, which started July 11, has sparked a public uproar in Slovenia, where the army move is seen as an attempt to crack down on democratic tendencies in Yugoslavia's most developed republic.

More than 10,000 people gathered in front of the courthouse today to hear the verdict and protest the trial, witnesses said.

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US calls for peaceful polls in Lebanon

WASHINGTON, July 27, (UPI): The US State Department has called for the competing factions in Lebanon to silence their guns and settle their differences in a peaceful presidential election.

Lebanon, torn by civil war for more than a decade, is expected to hold the election sometime after Aug 23 to replace President Amin Gemayel, whose term expires Sept 23. He is forbidden by law from seeking another term.

Although 30 candidates have come forward for the elections but the State Department regards only 15 or 20 of them as serious contenders.

Preference
State Department spokesman Charles Redman said in a statement, "the United States considers the election to be very important to process of restoring Lebanon's unity and stability."

"We believe the election must proceed in a peaceful and orderly manner so that a smooth legitimate transition can occur", Redman said.

He said the United States is expressing no preference in the electoral process. US officials said the statement was made in an

attempt to head off the possibility that one or more of the heavily armed groups in Lebanon would disrupt the elections.

Redman said, "we are not speculating on who will win. What we think important is that whoever becomes president of Lebanon be truly representative of all the people of Lebanon."

Under the Lebanese constitution, the president must be a Maronite Christian, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the president of the National Assembly a Shiite Muslim.

Under a proposed new constitution, a different balance of power is being discussed — but Syria, which occupies nearly one-third of Lebanon, is playing an important role in the constitutional reform and is pushing for a weaker central government.

Compromise
The United States, which has been mediating the constitutional reforms, has been trying to put together a compromise that would redistribute power to reflect Lebanon's changing religious and ethnic makeup without upsetting all of the country's political traditions and patterns.



Marcos: warned

Marcos and Imelda go into hiding

HONOLULU, July 27, (AP): The spokesman for Ferdinand Marcos said the former Philippine leader and his wife, Imelda, were whisked from their mansion Tuesday after security guards said that armed men crashed past the house.

The Marcoses were driven to an undisclosed location, said spokesman Gemmo Trinidad.

A Honolulu police department dispatcher said the incident was not reported on police logs. But Arturo Aruiza, another Marcos aide, said the police department had been requested Tuesday to assign more frequent patrols to the area.

Trinidad said three cars drove slowly past the house and around-the-clock security guards stationed at the gate of the hillside home thought they saw guns sticking out the car windows.

The unarmed security guards, who were on foot, chased the cars but could not get a good description because it was still dark, Trinidad said. No shots were fired and no one was injured.

The Marcoses were awakened a short time later and "went to a friend's house, I can't say where, but they're still on Oahu and they'll come back as soon as it's safe," Trinidad said.

Aruiza said he expected the Marcoses to be back home soon. Marcos and his wife, Imelda, have lived in Honolulu's swank Makiki Heights district since he was ousted in a popular uprising in February 1986 that swept President Corason Aquino to power.

Aruiza said the Marcos household had been warned Tuesday morning by loyalists in Manila of an assassination plot.

New ruler displays ruthlessness

Top Burmese officials fired

RANGOON, July 27, (UPI): A retired Army general and chief of Burma's dreaded riot police took over the country's ruling — and only — political party and immediately sacked the prime minister and attorney-general.

The central committee of the Burma Socialist Programme Party on Tuesday selected Brig. Gen. Sein Lwin, 68, to replace Gen. Ne Win, who stepped down on Monday after 26 years in power. Sein Lwin was today named president.

The selection of Sein Lwin came at a meeting of the 280-member party central committee held under tight security. He was chosen over the milder Aye Ko, who had been in line to succeed Ne Win.

Despite Ne Win's retirement, analysts said he was still believed to be pulling the strings of power.

Demonstrating a measure of the ruthlessness that has made him one of the most feared men in Burma, Sein Lwin immediately fired Prime Minister Maung Maung Kha, citing his failure to suppress the student protests in

March. The prime minister, in his 10th year in office, was known as a moderate technocrat rather than a strong leader.

Attorney-General Myint Maung was also fired for failing to deal effectively with the violence, a government statement said.

Riots
The March student demonstrations turned into riots when security forces intervened under the direction of Sein Lwin, who has been criticised in the past for his harsh suppression of student protests.

Diplomatic sources in Bangkok said more than 100 people were believed killed in the riots. The government first said two people were killed, but later admitted that 41 suspects died while in police custody.

In a nationwide radio broadcast, Sein Lwin indicated more sackings may be announced soon in the self-isolated, socialist nation.

"Experience has shown us that most of the errors and shortcomings that occur are not the result

of policies, but of individuals," Sein Lwin said in a speech broadcast by official state radio.

He called on regional party committees to take "immediate action" against such erring persons.

Sein Lwin, who has been in charge of SPP discipline, said the party was suffering from "bribery, losses and wastage, work delays and corruption."

He also called for "quick and successful implementation of the economic reforms passed at the extraordinary party congress," which closed Monday.

His appointment appeared to reflect the party's need for a tough leader to maintain a tight political grip on the country as the party tries to give the economy a boost by loosening economic controls.

The party announced major revisions to its strict socialist economic policy — allowing significant private enterprise and foreign investment for the first time.

Rejected, however, a call for a referendum on a multi-party system that would have undercut its

grip on the country.

The party also called on the central committee to revise a long-standing party ideology, a mixture of Marxism, Buddhism and Burmese nationalism.

The decisions, made during the three-day congress, marked the biggest changes in the sleepy Southeast Asian nation in more than 25 years. They followed years of economic stagnation, daily shortages of essential goods, and months of sporadic rioting.

Responsibility
In his resignation speech, Ne Win said he felt "indirectly responsible" for the violence.

The party, with 1.5 million members, is the only legal party for Burma's nearly 40 million people.

The party also elected Gen. Kyaw Htin, 64, to take Sein Lwin's place as joint general secretary.

Both men trace their relations with Ne Win back to 1946 when they were soldiers in the 4th Burma Rifles under Ne Win's command.

Arabs should get chemical weapons, says Egyptian

ABU DHABI, July 27, (Reuters): The former head of Egypt's chemical warfare department says Arabs should acquire chemical and biological weapons as the only means of countering what he called Israel's nuclear threat.

Mamdouh Ateya, in an interview published in the semi-official United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Al Itihad today, said that building an Arab nuclear force was the surest way to neutralise Israel's nuclear capability.

"But until we can catch up with Israel, there must be an urgent deterrent which should go beyond conventional weapons," he said.

Ateya said the addition of chemical and biological weapons to the current Arab conventional arsenal could provide a strong and real deterrent against Israel.

But development of an Arab nuclear force should not be ignored while building what he termed "ultra-conventional capability through acquiring chemical and biological weapons."

"A chemical and biological Arab force could provide a temporary protective umbrella until we can achieve nuclear parity with Israel," he said.

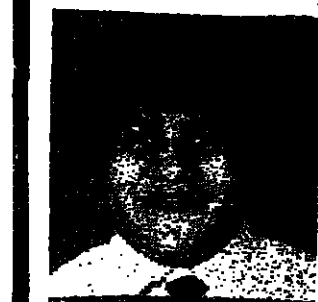
He believed such weapons would restore balance in the region, curb Israel's belligerence and bring about a just stability.

Apart from large-scale pollution that could obstruct troop mobilisation, an effective use of chemical and biological weapons could inflict losses of between 25 and 35 per cent of the enemy's manpower, he said.

"With that force at our disposal, I believe Israel will think twice before embarking on any hostile act against the Arabs," he said.

Defending his proposal that Arabs obtain such internationally-banned weapons, Ateya said the large stocks of chemical weapons held by the superpowers rendered that law null and void.

OBITUARY



Floyd Basil D'Souza
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Libyan freed on bail

ALEXANDRIA, Va., July 27, (Reuters): A man accused of being a Libyan agent involved in a plot to kill a US government official was ordered released on bail on Tuesday, despite government pleas that he might flee the country.

Federal judge Albert Bryant disagreed with prosecution arguments and ordered Mousa Hawamda freed after he posted \$250,000 in bail.

"I do not believe there is any danger posed to the community," Bryant said at a hearing. "I find there is little evidence that he is threatening to flee."

Hawamda, 42, of Falls Church, Virginia, as one of eight men arrested on lesser charges of illegally using aid Libya had provided for students in the United States and Canada.

Bryant said if the government had evidence that Hawamda was involved in an assassination plot, he should have been indicted on those charges rather than for currency violations.

EEC urged to meet Arafat

GREECE, the current chairman of the European Economic Community (EEC), has proposed a meeting between EEC foreign ministers and Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat to discuss Middle East peace.

Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias said in an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper published today that he made the proposal at a recent meeting of EEC foreign ministers.

"I think Arafat will come with new proposals... to solve a big problem, which is the Middle East issue," he said.

Papoulias appealed to Arab states to help protect Greece from terrorism after several Middle East-related guerrilla actions in the country.

Greek police are hunting guerrillas for the most recent attack on July 11 when nine people died as gunmen opened fire with sub-machineguns and threw grenades on the packed Aegean tourist ferry City of Poros.

Violence feared on peace accord anniversary

Security alert in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, July 27, (AP): An island-wide security alert was ordered today to counter possible violence on the first anniversary this week of the Indian-brokered peace accord.

The accord, signed last July 29, was aimed at ending the Tamil ethnic war that has taken more than 8,000 lives in the past five years.

The security alert was ordered after the government learned that the People's Liberation Front was urging Sri Lankans to protest the pact starting Friday, said Ernest Perera, a senior police official.

The front, made up of nationalist Sinhalese, has vowed to kill anyone who supports the accord and has been blamed for more than 400 killings in the past year.

The front contends the peace pact makes too many concessions to the minority Tamils.

Front members began distributing handbills and hanging posters in Colombo to urge Sri Lankans to join two days of "national resistance" Friday and Saturday.

The handbills said people should not go to work and should stay off the streets on both days.

State-run radio announced that school examinations scheduled for Friday and Saturday were being postponed because of security threats.

Earlier, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam called for a strike on Friday to protest the pact.

India became involved because it is a regional power and has 60 million ethnic Tamils in its southern states who are sympathetic to the Sri Lankan

Tamils.

The accord calls for the Tamil rebels to lay down their arms in exchange for creation of a semi-autonomous local government in Tamil areas in the north and east.

But the Tigers militia, the largest of the rebel groups, rejected the accord last October and renewed its separatist campaign.

India has sent more than 50,000 troops to the island to put down the Tigers' rebellion.

In a speech on Tuesday, President Junius Jayewardene rejected calls from the People's Liberation Front and opposition parties to abrogate the accord.

"There will be indiscriminate killing of innocent civilians if the Indian peace-keeping force troops were to leave," Jayewardene told a gathering at the Colombo port.

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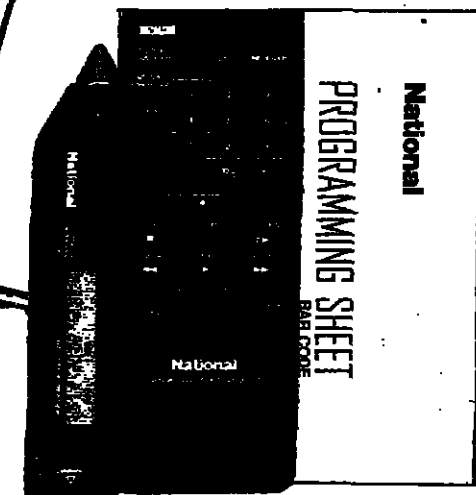
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Health officials defend standard of medical services

A LARGE number of senior health officials in Kuwait strongly defended the standard of medical services in the country, although many patients still go abroad to receive medical treatment.

Dr Adel Al Khatrash, the director of Sabah Hospital said that small incidents are magnified in this society and the media was partly to blame for this state of affairs.

Unfair

He said it is unfair to compare a government hospital where treatment is free with a private hospital abroad. On wrong diagnosis, he said that patients should give a true picture of their illness and to be patient as the diagnosis process is continuous and requires analysis and tests. Wrong diagnosis rarely occurs he added.

Dr Ahdi Al Ghanem, the director of the Amiri Hospital echoed the sentiments of Al Khatrash and added that Kuwait is the

only country that treats citizens and even visitors free of charge.

He disclosed that Al Amiri Hospital receives 200 cases at the emergency clinic and added that many of these did not require any treatment at all.

Dr Ibrahim Al Abdul Hadi, the director of the Maternity Hospital stated that mistakes do happen rarely and these are treated seriously after thorough investigation.

Satisfactory

Dr Mohamed Al Jarallah commented that medical services in Kuwait are satisfactory compared to other world countries. He added that Kuwait's residents suffer from low health awareness.

Dr Naser Al Basri said that the problem of health services in Kuwait is to a great extent connected to the salaries. He pointed out that medical staff salaries are low and are not suitable to qualifications of doctors. Many doctors have left Kuwait due to low wages he added.

Kuwait is a pioneer

THE dean of the Higher Institute for Co-operative and Administrative Studies in Egypt Dr Kamal Hamdi described Kuwait as a pioneer in the field of co-operative societies in the Arab world and added that Kuwait did its best to develop the co-operative movement.

He disclosed that he had the honour to head the scientific committee of the 2nd Arab co-operative conference held in Kuwait recently and stressed on the importance of preparing staff of co-operative societies prior to their establishments.

Hamdi said that the co-operative movement plays a vital role in organising internal commerce as it protects people from being exploited.

He added that Kuwait is now seriously involved in agricultural production and recommended carrying out joint projects among other Arab co-operative societies.

Al Hamdi disclosed that the Egyptian co-operative movement has closed co-operation with Kuwait, Jordan and Iraqi co-operative movements.

Facsimile popular

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Communication has made a study to determine the causes of the decrease in the use of telex and telegraphic services.

The study cited the use of the facsimile system as the cause and added that the apparatus was easy to purchase from the local market and link to the telephone without any permission from the Ministry of Communication.

The study added that the cost of correspondence through the fax equipment were lower than that of telex machines.

The study suggested several proposals including the setting up of restriction on the use of fax units, reconsideration of subscription fees and foreign telecommunication charges.

Community services centre does not aim at making profits

A KUWAIT University official has said that the activities of the community services and continuing education centre reflected to a great extent the role of the university towards providing the best means of education.

Dr Kasha Al Sabah, the assistant rector for community services and information affairs at the university, also said the centre is planning to accommodate all applicants desiring to study at the centre.

Co-operative

She praised the co-ordination between the centre and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training describing the relations as very co-operative and close.

She attributed the high cost of computer training to technical reasons and confirmed that the centre since its establishment did not aim at making profits.

She clarified that the computer study centre required considerable expenditure and the university spent about KD150,000 per annum for operating and maintaining the computer equipment.

She added that fees charged at the centre were less than those at private institutes including the fact that all teaching staff at centres were professors at the University and added that tuition fees for each computer training course ranged between KD 75-100.

Plans

Speaking of the future plans of the centre she said the centre is looking forward to set up a centre for data and private studies, the setting up of an integrated project for an open university, the rehabilitation of the current premises of the centre, the organising of foreign trips, the

developing of the charter and bye laws of the centre, the review of the tuition fees, the publishing of a monthly bulletin and extending of an integrated programme.

She disclosed that in view of the success achieved by the summer courses organised by the centre last year, the centre's administration had decided to adopt the same experiment this year.

Courses

She added that the summer course this year included courses in English, Arabic, German, French, Spanish in addition to courses in secretarial duties, accounts, computer sciences, business administration, photography and air-ticketing.

Al Sabah added that the number of students who joined the summer courses this year amounted to 303 and the number of instructors were 20.

Underground passageway useless

By Nashat Al Agha

SEVERAL questions hang over the future of the underground passageway which is situated at the intersection of Salem Al Mubarak Street and Qatar Street.

The passageway has proved to be virtually useless and now serves merely as a playground for children and a home for stray animals. There is, in fact, a decision under study to restore the area to its former state, but residents and shop-owners are still awaiting the outcome.

A local daily canvassed opinion on the passageway and found that all concerned were very dissatisfied with the situation. Samir Tomma, who works as a tailor, said that three years ago, he transferred his business to one of the shops above the passageway.

To his dismay, he has since lost 90 per cent of his customers because the shop is inconveniently



The deserted underground passageway.

ly situated and the area lacks parking facilities.

A large number of shop-owners have claimed rent reductions from their landlords, with mixed success.

Tomma called upon officials at Kuwait Municipality to give the matter their immediate attention and to do their best to put the area back as it was.

Hassan Mohamed Hassan, a restaurant-owner, shared the prevailing view that the passageway had created losses for both residents and shop-owners and that it was something of a local disaster area.

Women prove efficient as customs inspectors

THE assistant director of the Public Customs Authority Mohammed Al Rifai praised the posting of women inspectors at the border centres and added that Kuwaiti women have proved efficient as customs inspectors.

The official said that the authority began employing females as

inspectors at border centres from 1982. A training course for these girls was organised in 1987 which included the disciplines of explosives, weapons, narcotics, customs law, bases of customs inspection and the myriads of smuggling material. Female inspectors work for 24 hours with a break of 48 hours, he said.

Al Rifai disclosed that long vehicles and trucks will be inspected at the border centres shortly instead of within Kuwait. A project has been prepared to develop border centres which would include buildings and stores at border centres to store goods and inspect long vehicles he said.

The vehicles will leave after being unloaded and will not enter the country, thereby preventing smuggling, and positively contributing towards activating the internal transportation which will be involved in transporting goods from border centres to importers' stores within Kuwait he added.

Al Rifai pointed out that 615,000 narcotic pills, 14,000 bottles of liquor, 2,089 bullets, 51 guns and two forged passports were seized during the first six months of this year.

He added that liquor is the most abundant contraband seized followed by narcotics and weapons. He added that the authority is planning to use German shepherd dogs in their duties.

Organised

The assistant director pointed out that the authority organised seven customs inspection courses in co-operation with the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training for trainees who held Intermediate School certificates and each course lasted for a year.

Al Rifai clarified that customs officials have no authority to outrightly confiscate some publications, video cassettes, telephone sets and other communication equipments. However, they are authorised to direct these to the Ministry of Information for appropriate clearance.

Sheikh Issa visits Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, July 27, (KUNA): Bahraini ruler Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa arrived here today on a private visit to the kingdom, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

He was received at the airport by Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz, vice-governor of Riyadh, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Bahraini interior minister and other senior Bahraini and Saudi officials.

Sheikh Issa was accompanied by a delegation including assistant interior undersecretary for immigration and passport affairs, Sheikh Ali Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Sheikh Mohamed Bin Issa Bin Khalifa and Sheikh Salman Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday granted an audience to acting Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Way for balanced relations opened

ALTHOUGH Iran's acceptance of the United Nations Security Council resolution 598 was sudden, Iran's decision opened a way to balanced political relations, daily Al Rai Al Aam commented in its editorial yesterday.

GCC countries should be concerned most since Iran's stance might alter between one moment and the other, as the ceasefire might be just a momentary truce, the paper added.

The GCC has reeled under vast amount of material burden in this war, so a new stance must be established to eliminate any recurrence of error, since this war brought with it political distress to the region, the paper added.

Co-operation must be enhanced between GCC countries where a joint armed force must be estimated and a unified defence force be entrusted to ensure security in the region, it added.

If Iran wants to correct its political path and to comprehend the dangers facing the Islamic and Arab nation by the Israeli occupation, Arabs would not mind a friendly neighbourly relation with Iran. Yet this does not mean that we forget history," the paper stressed.

"We have to rebuild ourselves on our own and co-operate with our sincere brothers by establishing an effective presence in the region," the paper concluded.

Iranian airliner's downing

Unclassified report to be published

WASHINGTON, July 27, (AP): The Pentagon will release an unclassified report on the Iranian airliner, shot down by a US warship, as soon as possible, Pentagon spokesman Dan Howard said yesterday, declining to set a date.

Rear Adm. William M. Fogarty, who is supervising the investigation, will prepare classified and unclassified versions of the report on why the USS Vincennes shot down an Iran Air A300 Airbus with 290 people aboard on July 3, Howard said. US officials said the ship mistook the flight 655 for an attacking F-14 fighter.

The report will go first to Fogarty's immediate superior, the commander of US forces in the Gulf, Gen. George B. Crist, then to the joint chiefs of staff and finally to Defence Secretary Frank C. Carlucci, before it is released. Each layer in the command structure usually takes a week to review such a report, Howard said.

"I don't have a timetable for

release," he said. Fogarty, originally asked to complete his investigation by July 15, was granted an extension through the end of July.

The spokesman said it was "unlikely" that the report would be released before Carlucci returns Aug 8 from a trip to the Soviet Union and Turkey.

Baby still missing

A NEW-BORN baby, who was kidnapped from the Maternity Hospital on July 22, has not yet been found.

The baby was kidnapped within 48 hours of his birth from the observation room of the hospital.

Nurses and other medical staff of the hospital said that a lady wearing a black veil without a face cover had taken the boy away. The mysterious lady could not yet be traced.

Police are carrying out intensive investigations.

Kuwait's stand on Gulf war praised

VIENNA, July 27, (KUNA): A leading Austrian politician today commended the attitude of Kuwait toward the Iraq-Iran war as "wise, practical and balanced" despite the provocations it was exposed to in the course of the armed conflict.

"Throughout the years of war between Iraq and Iran, Kuwait adopted a balanced stand and a practical and wise policy in spite of its geographical and strategic position in a sensitive area of the

war," former Foreign Minister and current chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Austrian Parliament Peter Jankowitsch said.

Ceasefire

Jankowitsch was speaking to KUNA in an exclusive interview on the situation in the Middle East and the Gulf war following Iran's announced acceptance of the Security Council Resolution 598 ordering a ceasefire and the

opening of peace talks.

He said many Austrians appreciate and respect the wise policy of Kuwait and the balanced role it played to lessen tension in the region in spite of the numerous provocations it was exposed to during the war.

The leadership of Kuwait has succeeded, as a result of that policy, in steering a course at the most crucial and sensitive times throughout the years of the war, he affirmed.

It is feasible, says Dr Ibrahim Al Shahin

Proposal to construct a floating city

A KUWAITI engineer has proposed the construction of a floating city off Kuwait City — Salmiya shore capable of accommodating over 450,000 inhabitants.

The director general of the National Housing Authority, Dr Ibrahim Al Shahin, several years ago published his view about the floating city in a book on construction development.

In his study, Al Shahin stressed the feasibility and economics of the project and added that it will cost less than the construction of the proposed Sabbiya city near Bubiya island.

Approved Sabbiya city has already been approved as part of Kuwait's Master Plan. However, its construction along with the proposed Kheiran city has been delayed several times.

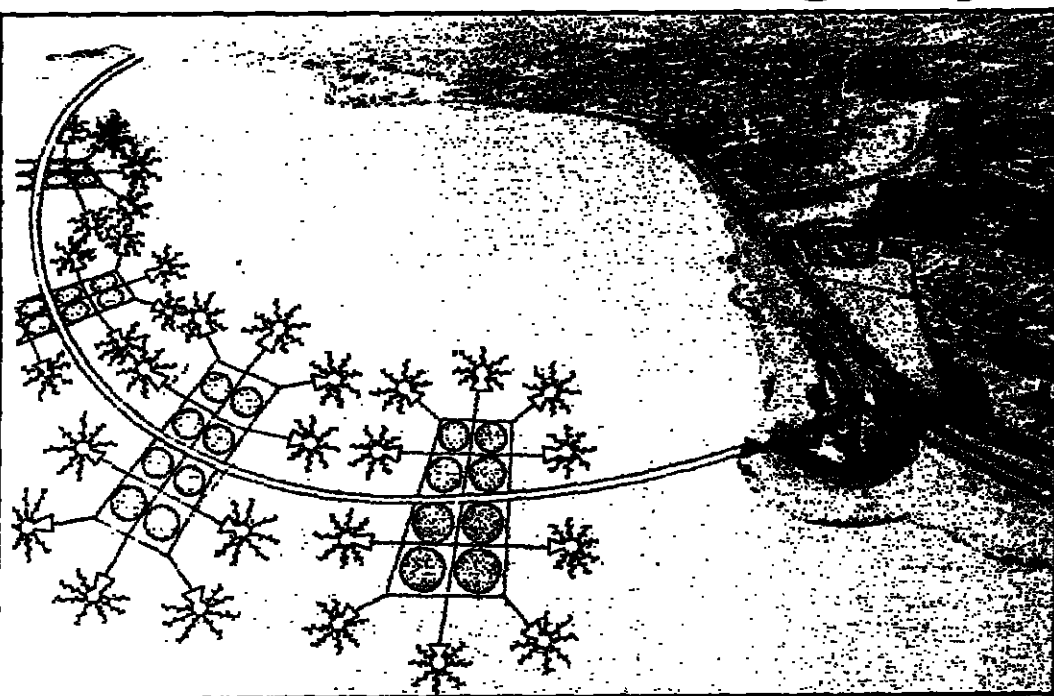
Basically, Al Shahin says he proposes the construction of four main artificial islands off Salmiya-Kuwait shore beginning from Kuwait Towers and ending in Ras Salmiya coast and added that he has made comparative studies with other residential alternatives.

The project would solve the problem of construction in residential areas far from the capital and main markets and would also solve the problems of the state which faces an increasing shortage in land good for construction and open new horizons for construction of cities, he said.

He has submitted several alternatives to overcome the expected design and construction problems and has tested his concepts out on computers he said.

Concerning construction itself, he proposed the use of steel bridges consisting of precast steel units to be installed directly and said that the project requires no extraordinary equipment other than those used in steel bridges and flyovers.

He commented that the Bubiya bridge is constructed over water to link the island with the mainland. It is over 1.5 km in length and several approximate estimates based upon the actual cost of Bubiya bridge which involved almost similar equipments and technology led him to believe that the cost of his concept of the city would be around KD6.3 billion — which is less than the estimated costs of the



The location of the proposed floating city off Salmiya-Kuwait shore. Circles and drawings show the proposed four artificial islands, the 10-km bridge and other services.

Sabbiya city he added.

He disclosed that the area between Kuwait Towers and Ras Salmiya is ideally suited for the project. The coast faces the areas of Salmiya and Kuwait City which are the most active trading centres in Kuwait and the most populated.

Further, the marine environment in the area is still very good, with easy passage to transfer the various services and the area being in the centre of the country is much desired for accommodation.

It is also very close to the government centres and above all, the water table is not deep in this region near the coast he added.

Concept

Design work is basically preliminary. However, the main concept is based upon construction of four artificial islands in the sea, each containing all the necessary and essential services making them almost self dependent, he commented.

Elucidating, he said that the project should begin by constructing a huge bridge in the sea connecting Kuwait Towers and Ras Salmiya. This bridge will provide very easy passage for the city residents either to Kuwait City or Salmiya area. The length

of the bridge will be about 10 km.

The second stage is the construction of the artificial islands. Each island will be able to accommodate over 110,000 residents. Each island will consist of 10 areas each with a multi-storey centre with car parks at the lower floors. The area centre will also house the main services like shops, mosques, schools, and will be covered with eight pedestrian passages.

Entrances to the residential buildings will be through these passages. Each passage will be between 50-300 metres long. Each passage will serve between five and seven buildings.

Each residential area will consist between 40-50 different size residential buildings, making a total of about 2,400 multi-storey buildings. Each building will consist of six to eight stories capable of accommodating about 250 families.

The shape of the buildings will be conical apartments and the higher stories will be bigger. Apartments at lower floors will consist of two bedrooms, a living room and a hall, while those in the 6th floor will consist of 4 bedrooms, a living room and a hall with a total area of about 200 sq metres, while the smaller apart-



Dr Ibrahim Al Shahin

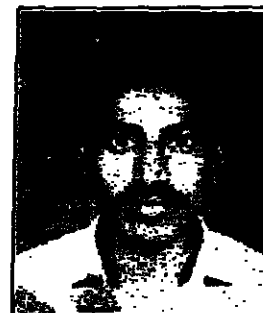
ments will be of 98 sq. metres in area.

Construction could be handled in four distinctive ways: Reclaiming the area of the sea to be used for construction which is cheap when water depth is between two to six metres. Second by removing water and reaching the sea bottom by establishing dams to surround the desired area — this requires advanced technology and longer execution time.

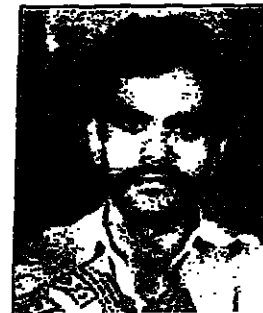
Third by building upon piles and columns to be installed in the sea. The last is the floating construction over the sea.

ANNOUNCEMENT

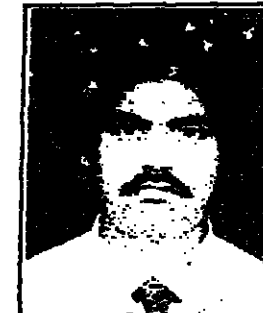
Be warned that the following persons are under our sponsorship. Anyone who employs them does so at his own risk and is liable to legal action.



Mohamad Jamaldeen
(P.No. 415221)



Amara Khan
(P.No. 423627)



Syed Ahmad Abid
(P.No. 233098)

Anyone knowing their whereabouts should report to Asian Int'l Trad. and Cont. Est. Tel.No. 2455227/8 or the nearest police station.



KUWAIT SHIPBUILDING & REPAIRING CO. (S.A.K.)

REQUIRES

A) MECHANICAL FITTERS/MILLWRIGHTS

Holding industrial training institute trade certificate, diploma or equivalent with 5 to 10 years' experience. Applicants must have good knowledge of installation, repair and overhaul of mechanical equipment such as pumps, compressors, turbines, boilers, heat exchangers, condensers, valves etc.

B) PLANT AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE MECHANIC

Secondary School, holding technical training as plant and equipment mechanic with 5 to 10 years' experience. Applicant must have good knowledge of repair and maintenance of various types of contractor's plant and equipment items such as trucks, compressors, cranes, sandblasting and painting equipments, welding machines, including preparation of repair and maintenance reports and spare part requisitions. Possession of a Kuwaiti driving licence (preferably heavy duty) essential etc.

Applicants must enclose copies of relevant certificates along with the CVs. Only those holding valid transferable residence permit should apply.

Application to be addressed to:
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
P.O. BOX: 21998, SAFAT
13080 - SAFAT - KUWAIT
TEL No. 4835488

EVENTS

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Tareq Rajab Museum
The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

Islamic Arts Museum
The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

Kuwait Science Museum
The museum will be open to the public every evening from 5 pm and from 9 am on Friday.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association
The regular coffee mornings for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer months. Coffee mornings will be held on Sunday, August 7 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am to 3 pm on that day. All German-speaking women are welcome.

YMCA
The YMCA will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

Summer Belle '88
The United Goans Centre will hold their annual Summer Belle '88 contest on August 11 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. The gala event marks the 10th anniversary of UGC. Entertainment includes music by Stepping Stones and City Limits. For further details contact Tony Gonsalves 2612024 or Joe Fernandes 5655140.

Carom Tourney
A carom tournament will be held in Maidan Hawally, commencing on 5th August, 1988. Those interested in participating, please call 5618684; 8-12.30 pm. Last date for registering names is 4th August.

D'Assisi Association

The association will hold a social evening-cum-variety show on August 11 at Messiah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena - 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909 (am), 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754 after 6 pm.

IAC Ghazal Evening
The Indian Arts Circle (IAC) will hold a ghazal-cum-dance evening on July 28, Thursday, 7.30 pm, at the IAC, Funaites, to celebrate Eid Al Adha. All IAC members and their guests are welcome. For entry passes contact - 3904817.

Onam Festival
The Viswabarathi Theatres, Abbasiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese - 4314511; Thomas Pereumilly - 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradayil - 2422973.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn
Tropical melon delights are being promoted in various outlets at the hotel. Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also offered.

On Thursday, enjoy Oriental music and food at the Oriental Night at the Al Andalus Supper Club. Al Dana offers a special treat for children at the Friday brunch, open from 11.30 am to 3 pm, featuring games, gifts and lots of surprises.

At the Meridien
La Brasserie offers Friday brunch from 12 noon to 4 pm; also open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

At the Sheraton

Enjoy Italian cuisine and live entertainment by the Sienna's Duo at the Riccardo restaurant. Riccardo's is closed on Fridays.

Al Hambra features authentic Lebanese cuisine every Sunday and seafood specialties on Wednesday nights; a sumptuous buffet is offered on Fridays. Live entertainment is provided by the Lords.

The Hunt Room offers a variety of meat and fish preparations and live music by solo harpist Harp Dreams.

Arab world specialties are available every Thursday evening at Le Tarbouche. A buffet lunch and dinner is offered on Fridays.

The Coffee Shop features a wide range of international cuisine and has a daily special.

At the Ramada
El Bender Coffee Shop offers continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 midnight; a la carte also featured.

The Take-Away counter, open daily from 4 pm to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

The Lobby Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

At the Continental
The Darbar offers a daily lunch buffet with a wide range of Indian kebabs and curries. A la carte for dinner.

SPORTS

14th Winners Cup cricket tournament

The YMCA will hold the All Kuwait Open 14th Winners Cup cricket tournament, beginning September. It will be played on Fridays and holidays at the KOC ground, Ahmadi. Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa, Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm.

PBAK bowling tournament

THE PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.25 Space Adventure: cartoons
10.15 Dawat Lil Hub: part two, starring Mirvat Amin, Mustafa Fahmi, Iman Al Toqi
11.15 Alal Duniya Al Islam: Arabic serial, starring Suad Abdullah, Hayat Al Fahad
12.00 Good Morning/News
12.15 International Circus
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.50 Fawazir Al Munasabat: featuring

Yahya Fakhriani, Sabirin, Hala Fuad, Al Sarab: Arabic serial, starring Mahmood Saeed, Mahmood Abu Ghareeb, Bill and Sebastian: cartoon serial
4.00 News Summary
4.15 The Saint: featuring Roger Moore
5.00 Liqa Al Khamis: weekly local show
7.00 Al Farosiyah Wal Zaman: prepared and presented by Mohiuddin Qadoori
7.45 With Islam: prepared and presented by Dr Khalid al Madhkur
8.30 Wa Qalat Al Arab: "And the Arab Said" daily serial
9.00 News in Arabic

10.00 Rawda Al Faraj: Arabic film; starring Farid Shawki, Nahid Yusri, Majdi Wahba, Tahya Karioka
12.00 Late Night Variety Show presented by Amina Al Sharah
1.00 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

Friday
9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Space Adventure: cartoons
9.30 Children's Magazine
10.15 Al Saif Al Mafkoud: children's serial, featuring Abdul Aziz Haddad, Ahmad Al Hazim, Ali Al Mufedi
10.45 Prophet's Sayings: hadith, religious programme, presented by Dr Ahmad Abul Noor
11.15 Friday Prayer
12.15 Rida Wal Noor: religious serial, hosted by Kariman Hamza
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.35 Songs and Music
2.00 Preview of next week's viewing
2.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwali Sharawi
3.30 Astana Bikhata'ak: Arabic play, featuring Adel Khairi, Mohammad Shawki, Mary Muneeb, Mimi Shukaib
5.45 Cartoons
6.15 Songs
7.00 Kuwait in a Week
7.30 A Seminar on Islamic Philosophy: "The Rights of Man", Part 7
8.25 Kul Al Funoon: Focus on art
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Wrestling
10.50 Naseeb: ep. 9, Kuwaiti series, featuring Abdullah Habil, Mohammad Saleh, Mohammad Jaber, Khalil Ismail



Naseeb, a local serial, continues at 10.50 pm on Friday on KTV 1.



Foo Fur: cartoons on KTV 2 at 6.10 pm on Friday.

Directed by Mohammad Abdul Salaam.
11.45 News Summary
11.50 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoons
6.30 Sesame Street: an education series for young viewers
7.30 Full House: "Sea Cruise" is the sailing trip a family holiday or a date?
8.00 News in English
8.40 High Mountain Rangers: "The Trial of Jesse". One of the rangers is accused of murder. Action.
9.30 I Married Dora: "Our Little Girl is Growing Up". Teenage is an uncomfortable time for a girl as Peter finds out. Starring: Daniel Hugh Kelly, Henry Jones, Juliette Lewis, Jason Horst and Elizabeth Pena.
10.00 Hit Squad: "Catch it before it catches you..." hidden cameras catch people at odd moments.
10.30 Late Night Movie: "Lolly Madonna". Starring: Rod Steiger, Robert Ryan, Jeff Bridges.
12.20 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Friday
2.00 Holy Quran
2.10 Cartoons
2.30 Sports Studio
6.00 Foo Fur: cartoons
6.30 Walt Disney Feature Film: "Tiger Town". Baseball craze is the theme of this film for young viewers.
7.30 The Bay City Rollers Show: songs, music and sketches are featured in this variety show.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Summer '88
8.40 "Fever". A hidden treasure is discovered in the cave. Starring: Linda Hamilton, Ron Perlman.
9.40 227: "Author". Sandra wants to write her memoirs but her neighbours discourage her. Comedy.
10.00 Guinness Book of World Records.
10.30 Nam: Tour of Duty: "Notes from the Underground". Soldiers find a tunnel in the jungle. This series is on the US involvement in Vietnam in 1967.
11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.37 am
Zuhr 11.54
Asr 3.30 pm
Maghreb 6.42
Isha 8.09
FRIDAY
Fajr 3.38 am
Friday Prayer 11.54
Asr 3.30 pm
Maghreb 6.42
Isha 8.08

• All entries for the What's On column must be handed over personally to Events Section, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait Pharmacy, Baghdad Al Salem St.
Abdullah Al Salem St.
Ibn Rushd Pharmacy, Souk Al Kuwait Bldg., Souk Duaij
Hawalli and Nagra Hawalli Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Salamiya and Rumaithiya Ibn Nafis Pharmacy
Hmoud Khalifa Al Hmoud Bldg., Hamad Al Mubarak St.
Fahaeel and Ahmadi Al Iman Pharmacy
Makkah St., Fahel Jeeb Al Shiyyokh
Al Nimran Pharmacy opp. Intermediate School
Jahra Al Zahra Pharmacy New Market

FRIDAY

Kuwait Al Jahra Pharmacy
Tahad Al Salem St.
Al Hakim Pharmacy, Jaber Al Mubarak St.
Hawalli and Nagra Al Sabah Pharmacy
Othman St., Nagra
Salamiya and Rumaithiya Sima Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Fahaeel and Ahmadi Al Wafa Pharmacy
Dabbous Palace, Dabbous St.
Farwaniya Al Taawon Pharmacy
Jara Commercial Centre, No. 3, Main St.
Jahra Al Khalid Pharmacy opp. Co-operative Society

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus Rambo III
Starring: Sylvester Stallone
Al Salamiya Al Jazira Theatre performance for Eid
Al Jahra Steel Dawn
Drive-In Asdiqah Al Shaitan (Arabic)
Starring: Noor Al Shariff, Farid Shawki
Al Firdous Aakhri Adalat (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Dimple Kapadia, Jackie Shroff
Fahaeel Open Air Zalzal (Hindi)
Starring: Dharmendra, Kimi Katkar
Al Fahaeel Mahaan (Hindi)
Al Jahra Fatina Al Sahra (Arabic)
Granada Desperately Seeking Susan
Starring: Madonna
Sulaibikhat Anantharam (Malayalam)
Ahmadi Drive-In Asdiqah Al Shaitan (Arabic)



Rambo (Sylvester Stallone) with his mentor, Colonel Trautman (Richard Crenna), in Rambo III.

Al Jeeb Sansar (Hindi)
FRIDAY
Al Jahra Five Deadly Angels
Granada Dariya Dil (Hindi)
Sulaibikhat To Burn the Sun
Al Jeeb Pyar Ke Kabil (Hindi)

English

Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0805 Spirit of Islam
0820 Songs and Music
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Pop International
0930 Your Kind of Music
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1030 The Hit Makers
1100 Closedown
1330 News on FM Service

Evening
2100 Opening
2102 Songs and Music
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music
2200 Understanding the Holy

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio News
30 Radio Active (ex 28th Two Cheers for July)
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
30 Waveguide
45 Book Choice
45 Society Today
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Network UK
0300 World News
09 News about Britain

15 The World Today
30 The Art of the Weatherman; 14th English Wine - A Growth Industry; 21st The Future of British Universities; 28th The Silent Army
0400 Newsweek
30 Classical Record Review
45 Reflections
45 Financial News
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Peaches' Choice
45 The World Today
0600 Newsweek
30 Time for Verse (ex 7th Irving Berlin Among Friends)
45 The Farming World
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

30 Guitar Workshop
0800 World News
09 Reflections
15 Country Style
30 John Peel
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Society Today
1000 News Summary followed by Assignment
30 Radio Active (ex 28th Two Cheers for July)
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 New Ideas (ex Sportsworld)
25 Book Choice (ex 21st)
30 Citrus
1200 Radio Newsweek
15 Multitrack 2
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Network UK

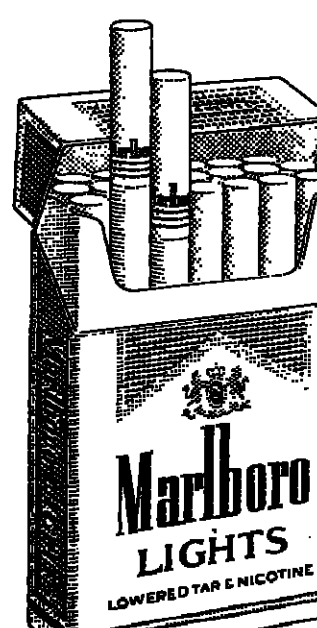
45 Jazz Scene UK (ex 7th Folk in Britain; 21st Sportsworld)
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 Write On ...

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0940 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1100 Country and Western
1200 Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News
1400 Alam Al Nagham: Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Arabic Songs and Music
1800 Party Music
1900 Songs and Heard
2000 Party Music
2130 News
2145 Party Music
0200 Closedown



Marlboro Lights



GOVERNMENT WARNING: SMOKING IS A MAIN CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER AND DISEASES OF THE LUNGS, HEART AND ARTERIES.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

BEWARE of little expenses. A small leak will sink a great ship — Benjamin Franklin, US statesman (1706-1790).

US Midwest feels the pinch of drought

By Susan Ellicott

WATSEKA, Illinois, (Reuters): While America debates the long-term impact of its worst drought in half a century, this tranquil Midwest town is feeling the pinch already.

"We haven't made a sale in 60 days to a farmer," laments Alan Thompson, president of Thompson Motor Sales, which relies on farmers for more than half of its vehicle sales.

"Normally they would be looking this time of year at tall corn above their heads, expecting 150 bushels an acre, and buying," sighs the former livestock breeder.

Instead, many corn and soybean growers of Watseka, which boasts some of the nation's most fertile soil, are staring at waist-high corn plants stunted by the unrelenting sun and lack of rainfall since early spring.

At the Primeburger Diner, a popular Sunday meeting place, they discuss the certainty of dismal corn yields over huge helpings of meat, potatoes, green beans and gravy.

Dry "I've never known anything like it — to be this dry for so long," says Rudolph Orr, who farms 800 acres (330 hectares).

In 1983 we had 40 to 80 bushels an acre and we thought that was terrible. But now it doesn't even look as if we'll do that."

"He won't be supplying any new machinery in the next year," adds a burly neighbour wearing a red baseball cap.

The few people who do not themselves farm tell of a brother, father or uncle who does and how the drought is hurting them.

All this is grim news for local businesses, which nearly all depend on the health of the farm economy.

"Even though we have some industry here that helps, when the farm income gets hurt, everyone gets hurt," says Ernie Groves, a semi-retired carpenter who for the past 16 years has been mayor of this town 144 km (90 miles) south of Chicago.

The American Farm Bureau says farm-related economic activity represents 17 per cent of the nation's total output of goods and services. Most economists say it is too early to gauge the drought's impact on the US economy, but shoppers already face larger grocery bills for vegetables and flour.

Kampuchean peace talks

Mere meeting itself was a triumph

By Ruth Youngblood

BOGOR, Indonesia, (UPI): The gathering of warring Kampuchean camps for informal peace talks Monday did not produce a breakthrough in the 9-year-old conflict, but the mere meeting itself was a triumph.

Rivals so steeped in rancor that they could not submit to face-to-face negotiations for almost a decade found themselves smiling and chatting around a circular table — intentionally installed to avoid seating disputes.

In the most significant attempt yet to find a solution to the Kampuchean conflict, representatives of the UN-recognised tripartite Resistance Coalition confronted leaders of the Hanoi-backed Kampuchean government, Vietnam and Laos.

Delegates from six other Southeast Asian nations also attended the informal, "cocktail party" style meeting, thus providing a "fig leaf" for Vietnam, which had refused to deal directly with just the resistance.

Victory "Holding this meeting at all represents a victory," said a diplomat participating in the scheduled three days of informal talks. "But the problems confronting us remain enormous" in ending the bloody conflict which is estimated to have caused up to one million deaths.

The sides are so far apart that any agreement to hold formal talks with an agenda would be regarded as progress. Movement on the key issues of speeding withdrawal of Vietnamese troops or formation of a provisional government to organize elections would be seen as substantial progress.

Resolution of the conflict is

An unhurried main street tells Watseka's story.

Huge silos of grain loom like city gates at the end of the four-block stretch, which boasts two banks, two savings and loans, several general stores, two tiny cinemas, a gas station, a handful of insurance firms, legal offices and bars.

Silos "Almost every conversation in town is about the drought," says Donna Eastburn, the cheery manager of a coffee shop in the centre of town where lawyers and business owners regularly meet for breakfast on their way to work.

Described by one resident as "5,600 people surrounded by corn and soybeans," the prosperous county seat also has a few farm implement dealers, a metalworks, a factory that prints business forms and a few fast food restaurants.

"You know we're a good town because McDonald's is here," says Barbara Mayotte, a saleswoman at the JC Penney Clothing Store, two blocks from the silos. "They don't make mistakes."

Penney's manager John Oletti said the store is trying not to make any errors either. He is stocking fewer goods than usual in expectation of lower sales, especially at Christmas.

"The hot weather has already hurt us because nobody wants to go out (of their air-conditioned houses)," he says.

Leery "The farmer is going to be a little more leery in emptying his pocketbook," says Dick Arie, who co-manages a local co-operative grain elevator with his father. "He's already a little slow on his fertilizer bills."

"Just think (the drought) will ripple through our whole economy and it's going to be a two-year thing," says President John Rodda of First National Bank of Watseka, predicting lower deposits at the small towns' savings institutions.

"People become more conservative just thinking about the drought," says Alan Martin of Iroquois Federal Bank. He expects cautious investors to shift to government-insured savings from riskier ventures such as mutual funds.

Rodda notes First National will probably require all its farmers — most of whom have outstanding debts — to take federal crop insurance next year.

The two leaders are expected to set a date and framework to resume negotiations on reunifying the island, split since 1974 when Turkey invaded and seized the northern third after a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have not met since 1985 when talks in New York between Denktash and Vassiliou's predecessor, Spyros Kyprianou,

collapsed. Vassiliou has said he wants an early settlement and told the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation last weekend he expected a good start to the dialogue.

"This meeting will be the first of a series of meetings which, we hope, we will then have with the aim of reaching a comprehensive agreement on Cyprus," he said.

Vassiliou said there was also keen international interest in the resumption of a substantive dialogue.

Preconditions He and Denktash were initially expected to meet sometime this month but delays arose when the Turkish-Cypriot leader objected to the phrasing of the UN document setting up the talks.

UN special representative Oscar Camillion shuttled across the island's Green Line for meetings with Vassiliou and Denktash and succeeded in ironing out the difficulties.

A UN source said the New York meeting would be informal and non-binding. He said both sides would have the opportunity to discuss any item they wanted to bring up.

"This is a way of circumventing the preconditions which both sides were placing before the United Nations came up with this initiative," he said.

Denktash, whose breakaway state in north Cyprus is recognised only by Ankara, told reporters at the weekend the New York meeting would be helpful in providing the opportunity to become acquainted with Vassiliou.

Security "We have nothing to lose by these talks. If the other side has a realistic leader — as everyone claims he is — then it may be very beneficial," he said.

The outline of any eventual accord on reunification remains hazy, but Denktash has said he favours linking the two communities in a "bizonal partnership" in a federal framework.

South Lebanon is a battle zone over Lebanese identity

By John Fullerton

JEZZINE, Lebanon, (Reuters): The major-general dreams of guns fallen silent, enemies reconciled, vendettas forgotten and Christian and Muslim living cheek by jowl in idyllic peace.

This may seem a tall order after 13 years of civil war, but Antoine Lahd, a retired Lebanese Army officer who now commands the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia, is committed to turning his dream into reality.

The 3,800 men under his command are financed by Israel, but Lahd is quick to reject a widely-held notion that the SLA is an Israeli stooge, effectively run by Israelis with the sole task of protecting Israel's northern border from commando attack.

"That is not our basic purpose," he said, sipping coffee in his bungalow. "The area in which the SLA is present represents the whole of Lebanon, a country of confessional (religious) minorities. All are present here."

The border zone held by the SLA and some 600 Israeli soldiers and intelligence officers comprises about 10 per cent of Lebanese territory.

Population About half the population is Shi'ite Muslim. Christians, mainly Maronite, Greek Orthodox or Catholic, form 30 per cent and the remainder are Druze or Sunni Muslim.

"We have provided concrete proof that the Lebanese can live together," Lahd said. "One objective is to prevent any one community dominating any other, to reach a natural balance."

But was not Lahd's dream strikingly similar to Syria's official policy in the remaining 90 per cent of Lebanon?

Did not Damascus, which now has 25,000 troops in the country, intervene in 1976 primarily to prevent Christians being overrun

by Palestinian and nationalist forces in the civil war?

Was not Syria, a secular state, sinking its teeth into the Lebanese quagmire 12 years later in an effort to promote a "no victor, no vanquished" policy among warring Lebanese factions?

Yet two Lebanons — a Christian-dominated southern zone and east Beirut on one hand and the Syrian-held Bekaa Valley, west Beirut and north Lebanon on the other — seem set on cataclysmic collision, before or after presidential elections due by September.

"Sooner or later, Israel will have to tackle Syria," said one of Lahd's senior advisers. Syria is Israel's staunchest Arab foe, devoted to achieving



Major-General Antoine Lahd (left) chats with South Lebanon Army (SLA) militiamen. (Reuters wirephoto)

what Syrian President Hafez Al Assad calls strategic parity with his Zionist enemy.

For its part, Israel is determined to secure its borders by maintaining its position as regional superpower and Washington's strategically placed ally in the Middle East.

For Lahd, the dream of recreating the pre-war Lebanon, a cosmopolitan and wealthy crossroads between East and West, involves a temporary convergence of interest with Israel.

His foes — Palestinians, pro-Syrian nationalists and Islamic fundamentalists backed by Iran — see themselves as true Arabs and Lahd's men as Israeli collaborators.

This is the crux of the conflict: a war over identity, exacerbated by the regional ambitions of foreign powers.

"I am convinced — and it's only my own feeling — that Lebanon has no interest in being at war with Israel," Lahd said. "It's an Arab-Israeli war in which Lebanon has paid the price."

In the absence of a strong central government, the SLA was defending the South Lebanon people against any threat from the outside, particularly those posed by foreign states.

Alliance It was, Lahd suggested, natural that the SLA should seek an alliance with Israel, which sought to secure its northern frontier and live in peace with Lebanon.

This is anathema to many Lebanese, who believe it are threatened by an Israel to extend its bailiwick north and subdue opponents by material inducement or force.

"They (the SLA) are not true Lebanese," said the Mukhtar, or elder, at a mainly Sunni Muslim village just inside Israel's border zone. "They are collaborators, and having sold themselves once (to Israel), they can sell themselves many times over."

The grey-haired general, meanwhile, prepares to press his dream of peace forward by preparing for war.

Security sources say that, while he and his lieutenants put out regular peace feelers with contacts in the Druze-held Shouf Mountains and among Shi'ites living north of the border area, the SLA is re-arming.

They say it has improved training facilities and plans to increase manpower to at least 5,000 men. They say it will double its force of 50 T-54/55 tanks and plans to form a reserve force.

Lebanon's war-by-proxy seems set to continue.

Although the University of London School Examinations Board will continue to offer its GCE "O" and "A" Level examinations overseas in the foreseeable future, I am confident that the quality and standards of the GCSE examination, with its increased emphasis on rewarding positive achievement, will provide many students outside the UK with the type of course and qualification they require for their future careers.

A.M. Sutherland Secretary, LEAG, London.

Protecting expatriates SIR: Bosses of some departments use expat staff for their own personal work and thus make them indispensable. To cite an example, an expat in the line maintenance department of Kuwait Airways supervises one typist. Even when this supervisor goes on leave work proceeds smoothly. Why is an expat given the supervisor's post that can be done by a Kuwaiti? The only answer is a Kuwaiti will not do the odd jobs of the bosses.

We talk of Kuwaitisation and still protect expats and their jobs. Why has not KAC brought or started training Kuwaiti engineers for their executive aircraft section? While other sections are training Kuwaitis, this one section protects the expats.

Many labourers are promoted to the posts of mechanics in this airline. Is it because no Kuwaitis are capable of doing this job?

S. Risan Mowla, Fallaka.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Right move to end war SIR: The acceptance of UN Resolution 598 by Iran is the right move to end the eight-year-old Iran-Iraq war. More than a million people have lost their lives in the conflict.

All praise should go to Kuwait for being brave in face of threats. Many nations admire and praise Kuwait and its efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Now as the war is about to end, all nations should contribute towards the reconstruction of Iran and Iraq.

R.J. Saldanha Prabhu, Safat.

Innocent victims SIR: Iran accepted the UN Resolution 598, calling for a ceasefire in the Gulf war, only after the rulers of that country realised the price of innocent people on board the Iran Air Flight 655, had to pay. In no way the victims were connected to this bloody conflict.

Had Iran accepted this resolution quite earlier, these lives would not have been lost. So it can be said that those 290 people on board have made peace possible. They are real martyrs.

I offer my deep condolences to the families and relatives of those passengers.

R. R. Purohit, Fahaheel.

Creating trouble SIR: It is not the fair way to celebrate a nation's victory by shooting down a commercial jetliner killing 290 people on board. That's what the US did exactly.

Compensation cannot compensate life. US engineers most of the troubles and coups in the world, then offers aid and seeks to be the arbitrator. Few nations question its action.

No one is superior to God, not even the superpowers.

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CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the
Arab Times

The quicksilver marriages of filmndom

MARRIAGES are made in heaven, they say. Well, the filmnd marriages may begin in an (artificial) heavenly atmosphere but many of them end up in hell. The sense of secrecy and urgency behind them make them sound very strange and cut off from the normal social custom.

Film stars are volatile, because of the nature of their work and the amount of money they earn; this brings them a false sense of independence. This also takes its toll on their relationships, which are decided more by moods and egos rather than stability and devotion. So a film marriage has become a quicksilver affair. Nobody can say when the mercury will rise or fall, leading to a happy or a sad end.

Recent marriages in filmndom done quickly and mysteriously once again surprised people and set them thinking. Poonam Dhillon followed in the footsteps of her bosom pal Padmini Kolhapure except for the business of eloping and marrying at midnight. Padmini's shrewd parents were dead against her marrying producer Tutu Sharma. But Poonam's father is no longer alive and the other family members had got reconciled about her choice Ashok Thakera, the producer.

It would be a Sikh girl marrying a Gujarati Hindu but then love knows no barriers. And



Vinod Khanna came to bless Anuradha and Kanwaljeet.

the family did not want the history of Padmini to be repeated, though Poonam's mother strongly opposed the match and wanted a Sikh son-in-law. Even the wedding rites were performed twice, in the Sikh

and the Gujarati styles and dresses. What's strange is the way Poonam kept on dodging everybody whether she really loved Ashok and would marry him or not. Career-or rather the money-power going with it is

another strong reason, especially for actresses to handle this in a hush-hush way. The star heroine desires to make as much money as possible before settling down. And producers are worried that the girl nursing matrimonial dreams may suddenly marry and get pregnant. In fact, in many cases, it is an unexpected pregnancy that leads to a rush marriage.

Statements coming from Poonam six months before her marriage were only meant to mislead the film industry. They are all proved false in retrospect. But then public memory is short. And once a marriage is accomplished, people get into the mood of blessing. Still, many are worried about what will happen to Poonam's incomplete films, especially the big ones she signed recently. Like Padmini, will she give an ultimatum to producers to complete their films before a certain time? What if they cannot?

Past affairs also come in the way of a film marriage lasting long. Poonam's name had been linked closely with Ramesh Talwar (who nearly married her) and also Raj Sippy. But filmnd husbands have made a tradition of keeping eyes shut on the girl's past. Normally film couples marry when either or both score a big hit, like Amitabh and Jaya after "Zanjeer". It is funny that Poonam-Ashok married just after the huge flopping of "Kasam". It only shows the industry's odd system where the producer makes his pile from distributors, on the basis of a big set-up, even though the film may later fail. That's how Thakera and bride flew off for a European honeymoon, at the cost of poor distributors who were facing huge losses. Anyway Poonam has also decided to continue in films at least for 18 months.

A marriage which film people still can't accept is that of teenager Krutika Desai with Imtiaz Khan (elder brother of Anjad). The young starlet had hardly made a career, though she showed sparks of excellent talent in some TV stories and the serial "Buniyaad". In fact its director Ramesh Sippy is said to have fostered the strange wedlock. Krutika's friends like Supriya Mehta and Kirtu Gidwani wondered why she broke off a bright future, to marry a man who is three times



Mahendra and Rohan Kapoor with the new bride and the Manoj family.

her age and with four divorces behind him, including Anju Mahendru.

That's why the wedding was performed secretly and hurriedly. Here, it was a Gujarati girl marrying outside the caste and religion. So the Hindu rituals were all observed as a first step. Krutika's parents and sister participated, though not looking too happy. But Anjad Khan purposely kept away from all ceremonies and reception, to show his firm disapproval. The brothers are also said to have quarrelled over other matters. Film people came to wish Krutika good luck (she needs it). The short bride sat on the arm-rest of the wedding chair for the sake of photographers.

Another much-married man doing it again was Vinod Mehra. Past record? First wife was divorced and given big alimony. Second wife, actress Bindiya, left him to marry J.P. Dutta. Third wife came and went like the seasons. And now one Kiran Garewal has stepped in as the latest wife. No wonder Vinod Mehra never had time to concentrate on good roles. Another young actress who for long suffered the dilemma of "to wed or not to wed" and then suddenly tied the knot is Anuradha, grand-daughter of Ashok Kumar. Her affair with tall actor Kanwaljeet remained the talk of the town for months.

Beauty queen Manisha Kohli was unable to land any good roles even after "Awaam". So she landed up with Vinod Khanna, hoping that he would recommend her as heroine. Manisha's papa, actor Dev Kumar, kept mum for the sake of daughter's career. But when Vinod's efforts continued to be all personal and not professional, Dev Kumar lost his top. Still Manisha and her mother were adamant about pursuing Vinod. So poor Dev went to stay apart, at a small house in Virar, where Govinda's disappointed father already stays.

Sattee Shourie may throw big parties and flash her pearls and diamonds. But she will not

chance. Kanwaljeet's only big achievement was "Buniyaad" but nothing at all in feature films. There is a marriage of convenience, he trying further luck on TV-Video and she running a finishing school for ladies. Maternal grandpa Ashok Kumar did not attend the marriage to show his resentment. She is daughter of a

chance. Kanwaljeet's only big achievement was "Buniyaad" but nothing at all in feature films. There is a marriage of convenience, he trying further luck on TV-Video and she running a finishing school for ladies. Maternal grandpa Ashok Kumar did not attend the marriage to show his resentment. She is daughter of a



Krutika with hubby Imtiaz

Behind the screen

pay the dues during production. Recently she had to send a bunch of extras for shooting of Farishte in Kashmir. She cut down director Anil Sharma's demand from 200 to 70 men. And even among that, she packed off 50 men without tickets. The poor lot was arrested at Jammu station but rescued in time by the director. Those who spend lakhs on stars cannot spare a few hundreds for others in the unit.

Poor Sabita, of Rajesh Khanna rap-fame, has decided to go South, in the absence of

Hindi films. Like Komal, Khushboo etc., she has changed her name to Rajshree and taken up a Tamil film called Mr Kartik starring an actor called Kartik

Mimics like Johnny Lever and Sudesh Bhosle are suddenly in great demand. They can perfectly imitate the voices of stars. So those producers who are harassed by their actors not giving dates for dubbing are booking the mimics to dub and complete the films. That way, they can even skip paying the last installment to the errant stars. But now nobody will know who

is speaking the dialogue, on the screen.

Dev Anand's flop son Suneil has got over the puppy love for first heroine Natasha, who has married Shelly Shailendra. Now he may marry and bring home his non-film Kalpana, to a long suffering mother, whose name is also Kalpana (Kartik). But what will happen to his two films Main Tere Liye and Car Thief? and his future career?

How can producers stoop to pamper even their erring stars? In an advertisement for Shehzade the producer announced: "Shri Dharmendra has reported for our shooting in princely style".



Sattee Shourie with Dharmendra, Vinod Khanna and Anil Sharma



Parting tears—Poonam and Ashok after the marriage ceremony



Manisha and mama chased Vinod while papa went into exile.

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIMANAEROBIC BACTERIA CAN LIVE,
GROW WITHOUT OXYGEN

ANSWER: You must be listening in to conversations at your doctor's office! Anaerobes are a type of bacteria. All bacteria are divided roughly into two types: those that must have oxygen to develop, aerobic bacteria, and those that can live and grow without it, anaerobic bacteria or anaerobes. As with other microbes, not all anaerobes are dangerous. As a matter of fact, anaerobes commonly are found on our skin and mucus membranes, where they do no harm until damage or disease lets them into deeper tissue. There, anaerobes have no oxygen and are in a situation that favours their growth and an infection occurs. Some infections—called mixed infections—are caused by combinations of anaerobic and aerobic bacteria.

The classic anaerobic infection is gangrene, where tissue that has had its blood supply (and thus oxygen supply) cut off, becomes anaerobically infected and dies. Abscesses, pockets of infection that are closed off, commonly are caused by anaerobes, as is peritonitis. The hallmark of an anaerobic infection is a foul or putrid odor.

Now, if this information was about a condition you are suffering from, and I

haven't made it all quite clear, go back to that doctor's office and get the information you need to understand what is going on and calm your fears.

QUESTION: You recently told a poor woman who had a burning tongue that there was nothing to be done for her. I had the same thing and my doctor gave me B-12 injections and cured me. Don't you think you should let that woman know about this?

ANSWER: I would have been happy to give her your advice, if I thought it would have helped. However, all tongues do not burn for the same reason. Happily for you, your distress was a symptom of a type of anemia called pernicious anemia, which is caused by a vitamin B-12 deficiency. There is plenty of this vitamin in meats and other animal proteins, but it requires a special secretion from cells in our stomach, called the intrinsic factor, to transport the vitamin through the intestines to the liver where it may be stored. When the tissue that forms the lining of our stomach changes so that it no longer can produce this necessary secretion, then anemia, and its symptoms, develops. Some of the problems associated with pernicious anemia include enlarged spleen and liver, loss of appetite and weight

loss, abdominal pain and constipation or diarrhea. When this diagnosis is made B-12 injections can bring a dramatic improvement, though they must be given for the rest of your life. The woman you refer to, unfortunately, had a different problem, for which there are no easy solutions.

ACROSS MY DESK: The number of cases of pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) has risen to an estimated one million cases a year in the United States. The cost of this disease is more than \$3 billion annually. According to Dr David S. Chapin, director of gynecology, Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, in a recent edition of Medical Times, the risk factors for this epidemic include multiple sex partners and the use of intrauterine devices. The diagnosis of PID is difficult and may remain uncertain, unless a laparoscopy is performed. The doctor uses a thin telescope—like instrument to view the ovaries and adjacent structures, permitting an exact evaluation. The goals of therapy for this serious condition are both to heal the present illness as well as prevent the problems of infertility, which is the frequent outcome of the disease.

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Seeking a dinner table hero

By Petronella Wyatt

NOTHING fills me with more gloom than an invitation to dinner. My hostess promises a hero with the wit of Oscar Wilde. In fact I always draw a combination of Boris Karloff, Attila the Hun and a Bolshevik revolutionary.

London is full of men who are best described as boring and boorish. Manners and elegance are pejorative terms in their limited vocabularies. Reading they dismiss as effete. And art, good God, that's only for pansies.

What has happened to intelligent debate? A dinner party is not an offence to civilisation. The unhappy hostess is trying to provide a forum for a sensitive exchange of ideas — not an excuse to drink and be vulgar. Somewhere between pulp and fiction and pornography cinema, we have lost the art of conversation.

I once asked my neighbour at dinner — who had just told me he was interested in history, especially the early 20th century — what he thought of the Arab revolt. He looked blank for a moment and then realisation dawned.

"Oh, you mean all those marches in the West End..." I smiled a weary little smile at such idiocy.

"Haven't you heard of T.E. Lawrence?" He was indignant.

"Of course I have. He wrote that dirty novel..."

"No he didn't..."

"Oh didn't he?"

So much for history. Which leaves finance and high politics. Perhaps on knowing that my father was an MP, the budding prime minister usually proceeds thus:

"Actually, I hope to go into politics eventually..."

"So, you too are fascinated by parliamentary life. The suppressed tension in the chamber before a great debate. The sweat on the home secretary's brow after a night of frantic decision-making..."

He interrupts.

"Oh, no, I was thinking of the sex actually..."

"Intellectual" men are even less illuminating when it comes to the great issues of our day. It's always a fossilised Marxism.

"The Thatcher Government has produced a state of class warfare..."

"Oh really. I thought workers had stopped throwing stones at the rich in the 19th century..."

My companion assumed an air of severity.

"Don't be frivolous. I assure you the upper classes are doomed..."

"What an original prediction. By the way didn't I see you at Ascot this year?"

(I had indeed seen him there and no self-respecting Marxist

would like his cronies to know he mingles with the toffs.)

But stop. One wants to be fair. Not all men are inveterate bores at the dinner table. What about the City whizz-kid? At least he doesn't think the gold standard is a nightclub in Soho. His avarice may put King Midas in the shade, but when it comes to a spirited discussion on interest rates, you're a better man than I, Gunga Din.

I am always ready and willing to learn about finance. But, alas, I never learn anything else. And an hour or so of grappling with yens and shares and insider trading is enough to make a footballer faint. Eventually, in a state of exhaustion, I suggest we talk about something else. A nice bit of poetry perhaps? His eyes glaze over offensively. He looks faintly shocked as if I had something rude.

"Of course," he sniffs, "arty people have their point..."

I nod wisely.

"But they're basically time wasters who can't do anything else. I would never employ anyone with a PhD..."

Quite.

One day I shall write a short treatise on dinner-party guests. Years of research have uncovered three main types:

Type A just doesn't listen. I feel that things have come to a pretty pass when you ask your neighbour for the butter and he replies, "Yes, this claret is very good, isn't it?"

Type B is a different bird altogether. This one thinks he is a Trappist monk. He stares at his wine glass with rapt attention. At any moment you expect to be asked what this strange and wonderful object is for. Actually he knows. This man is like a barrel. He wants to be filled with wine and then rolled home. That is all.

My third type does even better in the unrelieved tedium stakes. I wish he would take a lesson from Type B, because his verbal talents extend no further than shooting, alcohol and the odd bawdy anecdote.

Sex permeates his conversation. I find this worrying. Nothing is more boring than a man who goes about trying to seduce every woman he meets — except having to listen to an account of his conquest.

I am often baffled by male conceit. How any woman can be stimulated by a man who talks as if he spent his life sitting in a bus station is one of the great enigmas of modern society. And where, oh where, are good manners? Fifty years ago, men rolled out all their conversational skills with the enthusiasm of fading gigolos. They may have gone home muttering obscenities and cursing the day they ever said they were free on the 15th, but until then they damn well did their best. I will put it in a nutshell. These days an intelligent discussion at the table is a rare thing indeed.



The Art Buchwald Column

Notes from Russia

LENINGRAD: In the name of glasnost I was recently invited to the Soviet Union as part of a "humour" writers' exchange. My host was a KROKODIL, the national Soviet satirical magazine. The thinking behind the exchange was that if the leaders of the superpowers were willing to talk to each other, then Soviet and American humourists could also forget old wounds and the bitter differences of the past.

I accepted the invitation, but the readers must forgive my stream of consciousness, because they are seeing the notes of a man who, having been warned about the water, has been brushing his teeth with warm Pepsi-Cola for a week.

There is a great deal going on in Russia under perestroika (restructuring), which is being hotly debated at the moment during the Communist Party Congress in Moscow. Like so many Americans who have spent seven days there, I am now an expert on Gorbachev's reforms and what they mean to the world.

While there is a

tremendous effort to liberalize the entire infrastructure of the country, old habits die hard in the U.S.S.R.

Let me explain what perestroika is all about: The white hats are the liberals who are demanding complete change in the way the Soviet system works. The black hats are the conservatives who want to keep the same laid-back lifestyle that the Russian people enjoyed under Stalin and all of his successors. (By the way, their conservatives have no affiliation with the conservatives in this country.)

The reason that the majority of the Soviet people are supporting Gorbachev is they are sick and tired of dancing in Red Square every time a new cement plant is built in Minsk. They have declared that from now on, they will only celebrate when a new shipment of Reeboks arrives at the GUM department store in Moscow.

Here is another reason why people want change. For years Natasha has tried to buy a box of soap powder. Every day she

faces Anna behind the counter. Anna takes great joy in torturing her by telling Natasha that there is no soap powder. Natasha wants to know why there isn't any, and Anna, an old-line Communist, says it is because America has imperialist designs on Nicaragua.

That response would have been enough for Natasha before perestroika, but now she is not buying it. She tells Anna that she doesn't care what America is doing in Nicaragua. She is going to support Gorbachev because he wants the people to have soap powder, and he will ensure that those who don't deliver will be sweeping the streets in Chernobyl.

So that is what perestroika is all about — a battle over whether Natasha will get soap powder, or Anna will be able to send her kicking and screaming out the door.

I met with writers and humourists in Moscow and Leningrad. They were very happy with perestroika and were anxious to get on with writing books, plays and movies about the bad old

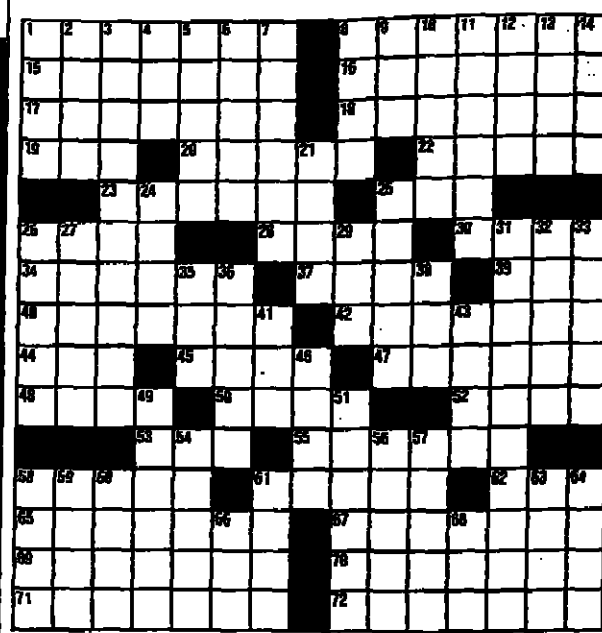


days. (Most of them kept notes.) We had frank and open discussions about the present literary scene in both countries. I explained to them that the main advantage American writers had over their Soviet counterparts is that we could have a Domino's Pizza delivered to us in less than 30 minutes, or Domino's would take \$3 off the price.

The Soviet writers were not impressed by this information, and one turned to me and said, "We had a similar delivery system to the czar..."

The subject that everyone agreed upon was that Gorbachev went much too far in abolishing vodka as the national drink. They felt that he had acted in haste. As one writer put it, "Perestroika is not well enough established to enable the people to face life in this country completely sober." 1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



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- 1 Containing the most openwork
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 - 68 Suit — T

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
LOOSE LIPS SINK CONTRACTS

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

♠ 6

♥ Q 6 2

♦ A K Q 9 8 2

♣ K 5 2

WEST

♠ 10 9 7 4 2

♥ 9 3

♦ 5 4 3

♣ A 9 3

EAST

♠ J 5 3

♥ 8 5

♦ J 10 6

♣ Q 10 8 6 4

SOUTH

♠ A K Q 8

♥ A K J 10 7 4

♦ 7

♣ J 7

The bidding:

West North East South

Pass 2♦ Pass 2♥

Pass 3♥ Pass 3♣

Pass 3♥ Pass 4NT

Pass 5♦ Pass 6♥

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: ?

Every now and then, we get a letter from a young Turk asking why we do not write about a certain convention, or describe a particular artificial system. We have nothing against those who are searching for new frontiers in bridge. It's just that, many of these hyper-modern methods too often paint a picture of the hand that makes life easy for the defenders.

To give you an idea of what can happen, here's a hand from the recent Spring North American Championships in Buffalo. Sitting North-South were a pair of super-

scientists, and their bidding, shown

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SIAM SIT MAINIE

LOWE RICH ICHTER

ITALI DRY RETRO

CARDIGAN MASSES

END LAP LAG

AIR TIRESOME

SCARAB AMT EVAS

EARLDER BIGGERS

ANTE RET NUANCE

MESSAGES SEL

GEL OHS GEM

MAIDEN PRESERVE

INCAN MATE LEES

STOIC AVON LENT

TANSY DIEN ATTIA

above, needs some explanation. North's opening bid of two diamonds showed a hand of 11-17 points and a six-card suit. His rebid of two spades confirmed heart support with a spade control (ace, king, void or singleton), and South's three clubs was an asking bid. The three-club response promised second-round control, and Blackwood got North-South to six hearts.

Unfortunately for declarer, the defenders had been listening to all this exchange of information. Sitting West was Steve Robinson of Washington, D.C., one of the country's leading players. He knew that he was going to find either the king of clubs or a singleton in dummy, and that declarer had shown two club losers with his asking bid. So he selected the devilish opening lead of the three of clubs.

Not surprisingly, declarer never credited his opponent with leading away from an ace against a slam. He played low from dummy, East won the queen and returned a club. Down one.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should not allow work to drown out all personal thoughts. Although at first you will not know quite what to do you will soon find your way. There will be some good luck but not enough to solve your problems. Be perceptive.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to do something you have not done for some time now. You should not be contented to rest on your laurels. Do not allow yourself to be intimidated but nor should you underestimate the difficulties. Be loyal.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You have no reason to lose confidence in yourself and should not do so. You should try not to become involved in an argument. If you keep calm and use your common sense you will achieve good results. Be a little more cautious.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

Avoid losing time doing something you are not really sure about. You must not place too much reliance on luck even though you will have some. You should place more emphasis on the positive aspects of the situation. Be magnanimous.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Take care that you eat a balanced diet. You will be able to overcome a certain reluctance to deal with a pressing problem. You should avoid all sorts of exaggerations and extremes. Be more but not too bold.



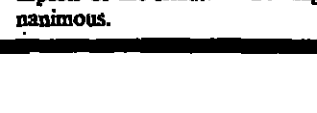
Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will have plenty of energy but you must take care you do not dissipate it. You should not allow yourself to be led astray; be a little less credulous. When talking to an associate, do not stray from the subject concerned. Be consistent.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should concentrate your efforts on doing what is most important. If you do you will be able to achieve some positive results. You should make sure you do not confuse the issues. Be cordial.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should not allow yourself to become flustered. Make sure you keep abreast of the facts. You should think again before you choose and then favour the alternative that conserves your energies. Be thankful.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should allow yourself a certain margin for error. You will be able to put a recently acquired skill to good use. You should consider the alternatives carefully before deciding on what to do. Be adaptable.



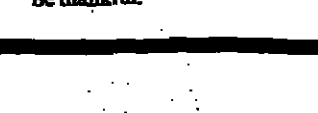
Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should not allow some small detail to obsess you. It would be wrong to delay something you well know should be done now. Avoid doing anything that would almost certainly be injurious to your health. Be more positive.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should make sure you can afford an expenditure you have in mind. Devote a little more time to pursuing your personal interests. Try harder to understand what others are attempting to do. Be amenable.

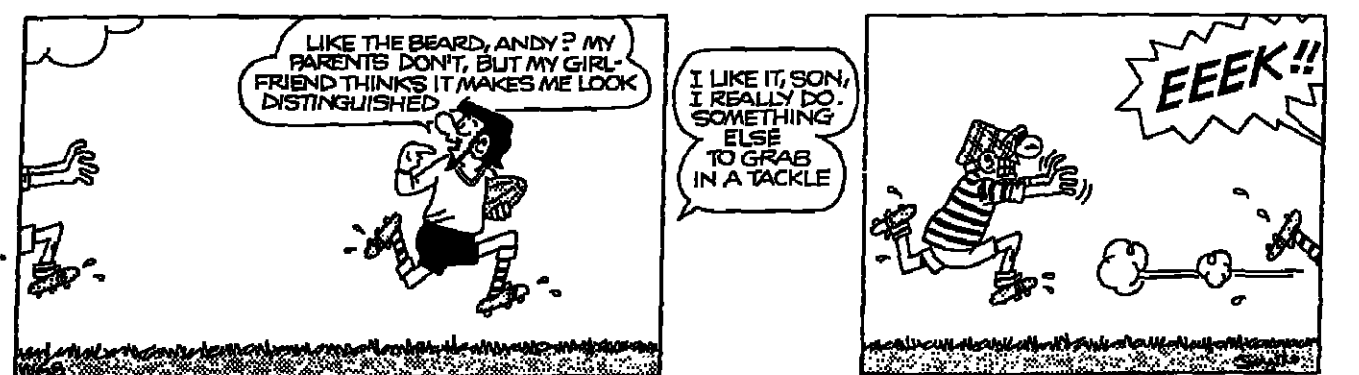


Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Today you will find it a little harder to do what has to be done. So use a little extra willpower. Seek to curb an aggressive tendency. Try to spend a little more time with your friends. Be a shade more optimistic.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Personal spending on the rise

US economic expansion healthy, but inflation up

WASHINGTON, July 27. (Reuters) The US economy continued to grow briskly between April and June, expanding at a 3.1 per cent annual rate after the 3.4 per cent pace of the first quarter, the Commerce Department said today.

The rise in gross national product (GNP) was in line with forecasts on Wall Street of 3.0 to 3.5 per cent growth.

The government also reported that the important inflation gauge, the so-called GNP deflator, rose 4.1 per cent in the second quarter, up sharply from the 1.7 per cent of the first three months of the year.

The first-quarter growth rate of 3.4 per cent was a revision from the government's previous estimate of 3.6 per cent, while the inflation rate of 1.7 per cent was revised up from 1.4 per cent.

The report showed growth was

solid and balanced in the second quarter, economists said. Exports grew strongly, as did business investment, while personal consumption increased only moderately.

As 1988 began, economists were worried that the loss of wealth in October's stock market crash would stifle consumer spending and usher in a recession.

Today, after six months of surprisingly strong growth, economists at the US Central Bank and on Wall Street are worried that the economy might overheat and rekindle inflation.

The Federal Reserve, the central bank, has been raising interest rates gradually to take some steam out of the economy, and Fed chairman Alan Greenspan told Congress earlier this month he would tighten credit further unless the economy

slowed and the threat of inflation subsided.

The Fed was likely to welcome the GNP report because growth was not as rapid as some analysts had predicted and the transition from domestic consumption to export-led growth continued without triggering exceptional inflationary pressures, economists said.

Growing
The Fed expects growth of 2.75 to 3.0 per cent for the whole of 1988, implying a marked slowdown in the second half of the year. The White House is projecting 3.0 per cent growth.

In 1987, according to new Commerce Department figures released today, GNP after inflation rose a strong 5.0 per cent and not 4.0 per cent as previously estimated.

The revised figures, which are based on new information about

the economy, show the current expansion, which began in the autumn of 1982, was briefly interrupted in 1986.

Instead of growing 0.6 per cent as previously reported, the economy in fact contracted by 0.8 per cent in the second quarter of 1986.

"Such interruptions are not unusual," Robert Parker, associate director of the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis, told reporters in a briefing.

Today's GNP report, which will be revised twice in coming months as more information is gathered, showed the output of goods and services in the United States rose at an annual rate of 3.02 billion in the second quarter.

The production of goods for export gave a major stimulus to the economy, the government

figures showed. Net exports, after inflation and seasonal adjustment, grew at an annual rate of \$18.9 billion, up from a rate of 17.0 billion in the first quarter.

Spending
Personal spending rose at an annual rate of \$14.4 billion in the second quarter, half as much as the 28.1-billion rise in the first quarter, while inventories of unsold goods grew \$45.0 billion, less than the 66.0-billion rate of increase of the first quarter.

Business investment in plant and equipment to ease production bottlenecks in industries operating near full capacity also rose strongly, by \$15.8 billion, after rising 8.6 billion in the first quarter.

The drought reduced crop and livestock output by \$5.5 billion in the second quarter, the depart-

ment said.
The quarter's \$18.9 billion increase in net exports was the largest since the first quarter of 1980.

The annualised deficit in net exports, which measures US trade by volume and adjusts for price changes since 1982, was \$90.6 billion in the second quarter, compared with 112.1 billion in the first quarter.

For the second half of 1988, GNP would have to grow at an annual rate of 2.7 per cent to yield the 3.0 per cent growth forecast by the Reagan administration for the full year.

In a companion report, the Commerce Department said corporate profits after taxes were revised to show an increase of 2.5 per cent in the first quarter, to an annual rate of \$149.4 billion. The government previously reported profits fell 1.4 per cent.

Burundi to get \$2m OPEC Fund loan

VIENNA, July 27. (OPECNA): The OPEC Fund for International Development is to extend two loans of \$1 million each to help finance road and sugar projects in Burundi.

The road project, which will receive \$1 million, aims at improving the road network in the northwestern region of the country, serving about 280,000 inhabitants.

\$1 million will go to the sugar project which is aimed at the cultivation and processing of sugar cane to produce 16,000 tons of commercial white sugar per year.

Scheme
The scheme involves the construction of a sugar processing factory, cultivation of 1,925 hectares of sugar cane fields and the establishment of a township in the project area.

The OPEC Fund has already made eight loans to Burundi — two for balance of payments support and six for projects in transportation, water drainage, agriculture and agro-industry.

In addition, the fund has also given a grant of \$1 million to the country to cover its subscription to the common fund for commodities.

The two loans were signed here today by Osama Faquih, OPEC Fund board chairman and Saudi Arabian deputy minister of finance and national economy and Burundi's Ambassador to Austria, Balthazar Nahimana.

Grants

The fund also agreed today to extend two grants for a collective amount of \$33,300 to the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation in Agriculture at Costa Rica and a study done earlier to commemorate the work of the eminent Latin American statesman and economist, Manuel Perez-Guerrero.

The institute, an intergovernmental body set up in 1942, is dedicated to research for the revitalisation of agriculture in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

The Perez-Guerrero grant will help update a book published last year in Geneva to mark the achievements of a man who was one of the first great advocates of North-South dialogue and South-South co-operation. He also played a pivotal role in the establishment of the OPEC Fund in 1976.

Perez-Guerrero, a Venezuelan citizen, died in 1985.

Algerian company in link-up with US firm

ALGIERS, July 27. (Reuters): Algeria's state petrochemical company has linked up with a leading US firm in a landmark deal under new laws designed to attract foreign expertise.

The Algerian News Agency reported a joint venture between Universal Oil Product and Algeria's Enterprise Nationale de Petrochimie was signed by senior officials of both companies today.

The contract runs over 20 years and covers both the manufacturing and development of petrochemicals used in detergents.

Deal
It is the first major deal with a US company since legislation allowing a larger foreign involvement in the oil and gas industry were changed two years ago.

Algers has since announced joint exploration deals with Spanish and Italian companies, and has also been keen to get technological help to develop its own petrochemical industry.

Current ethylene production falls short of domestic demand

China to expand petrochemical exports in 1990s

BEIJING, July 27. China is expanding its petrochemical industry to become a major exporter of petrochemicals in the 1990s, Oil and Gas Journal has reported.

Keys to the effort are aggressive imports of Western technology, broad reorganisation of the industry, and sweeping reform of its management system, writes Liu Jianjun in the official weekly, Beijing Review.

China's petrochemical industry blossomed in the 1970s with large scale expansion of its oil production capacity.

The industry consists of more than 40 large petrochemical complexes and many smaller enterprises employing more than one million persons. Total sales are more than 40 billion yuan per year (\$10.74 billion).

The Chinese petrochemical industry's oil processing capacity is 110 million metric tons per year, with a yield of more than 2,000 petrochemical products, almost all for domestic use.

In 1987, petrochemical production included 1.63 million metric tons of ethylene, more than 1.1 million metric tons of synthetic fibres, 140,000 metric tons of synthetic rubber, more than 800,000 metric tons of plas-

tics, and 17.03 million metric tons of chemical fertilisers.

In the early 1980s, China introduced centralised management and unified planning for its plants, setting up several integrated petrochemical complexes.

In 1983, it formed the China National Petrochemical Industrial Corp. (CNPIC), and economic entity with ministerial status. CCCNPIC oversees 40 large- and medium-sized refining, petrochemical, chemical fibre, and chemical fertiliser businesses linked to about a dozen ministries of commissions, as well as related research institutes and institutions of higher learning.

CNPIC is responsible for drafting general programmes for reform and development that are then worked into specific annual quotas under contracts with branch companies, factories, and individuals. At the same time, it gives the enterprises full autonomy and responsibility for profits.

Value
During 1983-87, the value of CNPIC's total industrial production jumped by an average 8.8 per cent per year. Production of major products increased by 30-80 per cent, with

some doubling or tripling.

In the same period, the corporation completed more than 10 grassroots petrochemical complexes at a total investment of almost 30 billion yuan, or 10 per cent more than the combined total investment for the previous 30 years.

A special focus for growth has been ethylene development. China's seven major ethylene plants in 1987 produced more than twice the volume of 1986.

Although CNPIC has been importing some advanced equipment, such as catalytic cracking units for the Liaoyang and Beijing Yanshan plants, its ethylene industry sorely needs technological upgrading and debottlenecking. Current ethylene production falls short of domestic demand. Supplies of polyethylene and polypropylene are tight.

Capacity
Through capacity additions and imports of ethylene plants, China plans to boost ethylene capacity to more than two million metric tons per year.

China's production of chemical fibres also has grown by an average 20-30 per cent per year to rank fourth in the world after US, Japan, and USSR in 1987, but it still is low on a per

capita basis. Chemical fibre supply/demand is roughly in balance, but demand growth will require a doubling of production to more than two million metric tons per year.

China's petrochemical industry in 1987 imported \$660 million in technology, equipment, and capital.

Advanced technology and key equipment accounted for \$300 million of the total, machinery, accessories, and spare parts \$110 million, and chemical feedstocks, steel products, and cement about \$100 million.

Imports
China's reports of technology and equipment since the 1970s cover more than 240 contracts totalling more than \$6 billion. Ancillary equipment imports total more than \$1 billion.

CNPIC gave priority to importing equipment and funds for key projects such as the few 300,000 metric ton per year capacity ethylene plants.

Foreign loans for ethylene plants that size came from the Export-Import Bank of Japan at Daqing and C. Itoh & Co. Bank at Qilu in Shandong Province.

Since 1984, China's petrochemical industry has signed loan agreements or contracts

covering \$1 billion in foreign funds with banks in 30 countries.

Aside from grassroots construction projects, CNPIC imported plants to produce derivatives, including a 60,000 metric ton per year low density linear polyethylene plant at Qilu, a 70,000 metric ton per year polypropylene unit from Union Carbide at Qilu, and a 70,000 metric ton/year polypropylene plant at Shanghai from Italy.

In 1987, CNPIC's petrochemical exports were valued at \$900 million.

During 1983-87, China exported \$6.1 billion worth of petrochemicals and refined products to more than 60 countries.

CNPIC's push into the world market is progressing with exports of its technology, labour and training services, and bids for 12 international projects.

The corporation has signed three contracts to date for foreign projects, including an oil shale plant in Jordan and a joint venture with a US petrochemical company to produce furnaces for a Chinese business.

Reform measures enable CNPIC to export 16 petrochemicals directly through a multichannel network instead of through foreign trade departments.

Tunisia to get \$270m from IMF

WASHINGTON July 27. (AP): The North African Republic of Tunisia will get a new loan worth \$270 million, the International Monetary Fund announced yesterday.

Tunisia already owes the Fund about the same amount, out of a total debt that reached 6 billion in 1986 — the last year for which figures are available.

In return for the help from the Fund, Tunisia is promising to cut the government deficit and inflation to 5 per cent and to aim at an annual growth rate of a modest 3.5 per cent.

Iran signs \$1.18b protocol with Romania

NICOSIA, July 27. (Reuters): Iran has signed a protocol with Romania for industrial and trade exchanges worth a total of \$1.18 billion, Iranian television reported yesterday.

The television, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Minister of Plan and Budget Massoud Raghani Zanjani as saying Romania would buy \$560 million of oil and \$30 million of non-oil goods from Iran.

Zanjani returned on Saturday from Romania, where the agreement was signed.

The television did not say what Iran would buy in return or what period the agreement covered.

Populist pressures mount

Argentina seeks more overseas aid

WASHINGTON, July 27. (Reuters): As Argentina looks for more money from banks and international lending agencies, some financial experts say its struggle with its \$55 billion debt may foster a return to the populist policies of the past.

With the debt crisis now six years old, fatigue with austerity is likely to play an important role in a number of upcoming elections in Latin America, some of them in young democracies still trying to establish themselves.

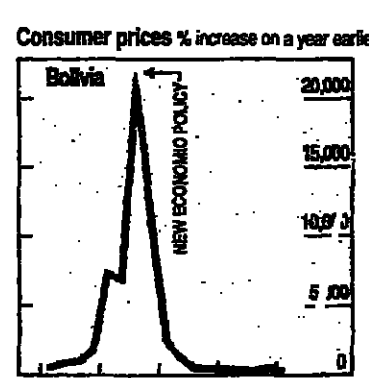
"The current debt strategy is causing a radicalisation and polarisation of Latin American politics," Harvard University Professor Jeffrey Sachs told Congress recently.

Argentina has adhered to what Western officials call a rational approach to debt, co-operating with its creditors instead of alienating them as, say, Peru did by unilaterally limiting interest payments.

Debt
Since 1983 Argentina's foreign debt has increased \$10 billion, but much of the money has gone to service old loans and not to economic development.

Now, facing monthly inflation of 18 per cent and depressed wages, many Argentines are blaming the debt and are despairing of president Raul Alfonsin's moderate policies.

As a result, the Peronist opposition, pushing a harder



debt line, last September won a victory over Alfonsin in parliamentary elections.

A presidential election is due in May next year. The populist Peronists have chosen La Rioja province Governor Carlos Menem as their candidate.

A Latin American development expert said: "There's nothing wrong with Argentina's debt problem that could not be fixed if the debt was half of what it is. How long do you go on pretending the figures are going to add up?"

To stay afloat for the remainder of Alfonsin's term of office, which ends in December, 1989, Buenos Aires is negotiating a new International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme, fresh loans from commercial banks and continued funding from international development banks.

Treasury Secretary Mario Broderick and Central Bank president Jose Luis Machinea said last Thursday that they expected to sign an 18-month, \$1.3 billion loan with the IMF by the end of the month.

Loans
In the past, the US Treasury has made bridge loans to Argentina until IMF funds were disbursed.

If new money is not forthcoming by the end of August, when heavy payments to commercial banks fall due, Argentina could slip into technical default, bankers fear.

Argentina has tried not to fall more than 90 days behind with interest payments to banks this year, but an Economy Ministry official told Reuters in Buenos Aires it would continue to pay only if the banks stepped forward

with new loans.
"We must find a balance between servicing the debt and providing funds to promote domestic growth," he said.

"It is absurd for debtor countries to remit vast sums abroad when the money is needed for domestic development. We have to encourage the growth of the economy, which is the only way to repay the debt," the official added.

Harvard's Sachs said Argentina, Brazil and other nations had done everything they could to meet debt obligations, despite damage to their economies caused by the heavy interest payments.

Debtors
"The real question is not why debtors are trying so hard to play by the rules, but rather why the United States is helping to shape rules that are often politically suicidal for friendly, reformist and democratic governments in our hemisphere," he said.

Debt pressures influenced the emergence of the left as a significant force on the Mexican political scene in a presidential election last month, political analysts said.

It also has played a role in the Venezuelan presidential campaign, where front-running candidate Carlos Andres Perez has urged Latin American nations to take a common stand in seeking easier debt repayment terms.

China reports \$4.5 billion trade surplus

BEIJING, July 27. (UPI): China registered a \$4.5 billion trade surplus from January through June, the first surplus in three years, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade announced today.

Export earnings reached \$20.22 billion, a rise of 16.1 per cent over the first six months of 1987, and imports totalled \$15.63 billion, up by 24.3 per cent, ministry spokesman Liu Xiangdong told a press conference.

China experienced a trade deficit of \$2 billion during the same period last year.

Total exports and imports

grew \$35.85 million, increasing by 19.5 per cent over the first six months of 1987, Liu said.

But the figures do not include China's burgeoning arms sales, which unofficial estimates have placed at nearly \$2 billion annually.

Sales
Liu was defensive when asked how increasing arms sales have affected the nation's overall trade picture, saying only that they amount to a "very small part of our trade." He declined to reveal the amount of money involved and said the sales were not part of the released trade statistics.

"Even if China does not sell one bullet or one gun, there would be a lot of arms being sold in the world," Liu said.

In trade with the United States, China ran a deficit, importing goods valued at \$1.57 billion and sending \$1.32 billion across the Pacific Ocean.

Trade with Hong Kong, China's biggest trading partner, grew by 35.5 per cent, with exports to the colony between January and May reaching \$4.77 billion and imports \$2.76 billion. China exported \$2.98 billion in goods to Japan and imported \$2.51 billion.

He dismissed a difference in

trade figures between his department and China's Customs Bureau, whose statistics are generally regarded as more accurate by Western economists and diplomats. Liu attributed the bureau's report of an \$890 million trade deficit for the first five months of the year to "different accounting methods."

He also said that barring further natural disasters, China's domestic grain production this year would exceed that of 1987, but admitted the possibility grain imports might have to be increased.

"Whether China will increase its importation of grain this year

depends on the domestic market and production and on the world (price) situation," he said.

Grain-rich southern China has been baking under a month-long heat wave that has sent temperatures skyrocketing to 106 degrees (41C), killing more than 1,440 people and damaging or destroying more than 27 million acres of precious crops.

China's top five export items during the first half of this year were machinery and electronic equipment, light industrial products, silk, cereals and oils, Liu said. There was a decrease in textile exports, which topped China's sales list last year.

World Business Summary

EEC ministers approve 1989 budget outline

BRUSSELS, Belgium, July 27. (AP): Budget ministers of the European Economic Community early today approved a draft budget for 1989 that provides for a 5 per cent increase in spending. The spending plan, the first since EEC leaders agreed on a formula to control farm payments will be sent to the European parliament for action. The budget ministers from the 12 EEC nations spent relatively little time agreeing on the 1989 spending total of 47.6 billion European Currency Units (about \$53.3 billion). The 1988 budget totalled 45.3 billion ECUs (\$50.7 billion). In the past, budget meetings had been lengthy, sometimes bitter sessions marked by deep divisions over how much should be earmarked mostly for farm payments. Under the new budget outline, the EEC would funnel 28.1 billion ECUs (\$31.5 billion) to agricultural payments, which amounts to 59 per cent of total spending. Farm payments were 27.5 billion ECUs (\$30.8 billion) this year. The ceiling on 1989 farm spending was set at 28.6 billion ECUs (\$32 billion). The new budget calls for channeling 9.3 billion ECUs (\$10.4 billion) in development aid to poorer regions of the Community, notably in Ireland, Italy, Spain and Greece. That represents a 7 per cent increase over this year's outlays.

The budget deal worked out in February by the EEC leaders called for boosting aid to the Community's poorer areas by 80 per cent over the next five years to about \$16 billion. As part of that deal, the leaders agreed that annual increases in farm spending would, for the first time, be strictly limited. Under the formula, each 10 per cent increase in the EEC's total economic output would allow a 7.4 per cent increase in the draft plan. If the European parliament makes changes in the draft plan, it must be sent back to the EEC for consideration.

Kenya's first privatisation share offer a crowd-puller

NAIROBI, July 27. (Reuters): Kenya's first fling with privatisation proved the biggest crowd-puller yet for a public share issue in the former British colony. For the venture into uncharted waters, the government used its flagship state-owned Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) which offered the public a 20 per cent stake. Subscriptions totalled three-and-a-quarter times the stock offered by the bank, which dates back to 1896 when its predecessor the National Bank of India opened a branch in Kenya. "This represents the largest popular response to a single public share issue in the history of Kenya's stock market," the bank declared in a statement. The Nairobi Stock Exchange was incorporated in 1954, nine years before the East African country won independence, although colonialists had traded informally before then in British shares with Kenyan interests. Because of the initial British influence, and a ban prior to independence on Africans holding shares in plantation-owning companies, share trading has long been seen by many Kenyans as a foreign institution. But this is clearly changing according to the Standard newspaper, the oldest in East Africa and controlled by the British-based Lomax Group. "The business of buying and selling stocks is quickly becoming less mysterious to a growing number of Kenyans, thanks to the increasing number of firms that have gone public or shown an interest to do so during the past four years," it said in an editorial today.

South Korea imports more advanced technology

SEOUL, South Korea, July 27. (AP): South Korea imported advanced technology for 353 machinery and other projects during the first half of this year, up 49 per cent from a year ago, government officials said today. Officials at the Trade and Industry Ministry attributed the sharp increase to changing corporate strategies to cope with the appreciation of the Korean currency, called the won, and increasing labour unrest. Japan was the largest technology supplier with 181 contributions, followed by the United States with 90 and European nations with 46, the officials said. Machinery and electronics accounted for nearly 60 per cent of the technology introduced during the period. The total also included chemical and textile technology. The figures indicate South Korean corporations largely rely on Japan for machinery-related technology, the United States for electronics and electric technology and European nations for chemical technology, the officials said. Some 36 technological imports for factory automation were recorded, almost three times the figure for the first half of 1987. Officials said the increase reflects corporate efforts to cut or freeze employment to reduce risks of labour protests. Labour unrest is a growing problem for South Korean companies. Officials have reported more than 1,000 labour strikes so far this year. Most were settled through negotiation, but some were violent and resulted in the closings of plants, in some cases for months. The Korean won has appreciated by about 18 per cent against the US dollar in the past year.

Nearly 1 million Soviets laid off since beginning of year

MOSCOW, July 27. (AP): Almost one million Soviet factory workers have been laid off since the beginning of the year as Mikhail S. Gorbachev's economic reforms modernise industry and trim fat from management. Radio Moscow said today. The state-run radio said those discharged are sure to get other jobs "since the government has undertaken to redistribute the labour force in a planned manner." Since Gorbachev was named Communist Party chief in March 1985, he has waged a campaign to modernise his country's economy, increase productivity and prune the size of the state bureaucracy. In January, the Communist Party daily Pravda estimated that 16 million Soviets would be laid off in the next 12 years due to heightened efficiency. Radio Moscow said: "The number of workers in Soviet industries has gone down by almost one million in the first half of the year, compared with the same period last year. The National Statistical Service attributes the fact to the current economic reform, which is introducing more automatic systems and streamlining management," the radio said, apparently referring to the state committee on statistics. Radio Moscow did not say what the size of the labour force in the country's factories was last year or now is. In 1986, 82.1 million Soviets were officially classified as "workers," as distinguished from white-collar service or management personnel and collective farmers.

Japanese pay among world's highest prices for beef

TOKYO, July 27. (AP): Japanese are still paying among the world's highest prices for beef and other foodstuffs, the Economic Planning Agency reports. In an annual report, the agency said prices for domestic goods and services were generally stable. The report said consumer prices rose 0.5 per cent in fiscal 1987 (that ended last March), compared to the previous fiscal year, while wholesale prices declined 2.0 per cent. The report, released on Monday, cited a strong currency and cheaper oil prices as the two major factors resulting in stable prices, as well as lower prices for manufactured goods and utilities. But government controls on specific domestic and imported goods, particularly foodstuffs, have pushed prices above international levels to "create a situation where the level of prices in our country appears comparatively high," the agency reported. A table comparing foodstuff prices around the world shows beef in Tokyo was averaging \$2.50 per 100 grams (3.5 ounces) last October. By comparison, the same quantity and cut went for \$1 in New York, \$1.30 in Hamburg, \$1.35 in Paris and \$1.80 in London. The agency also called on the government to streamline Japan's complicated distribution system and take steps to dismantle controls on domestic and imported items.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 28-29, 1988

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	212/0
ABBEY LIFE	316/0	JAGUAR	285/0
AOT LTD	139/0	LANDROVER	419/0
ALD LYONS	22/00	LAND SECS	561/0
AMSTRAD	215/0	LAPORTE	415/0
ARGYLL GP	192/0	LASMO	460/0
ASDA GP	156/0	LEGAL&GEN	19/00
BAA	276/0	LOWRIE	40/75
BTR	275/0	LUCAS IND	541/0
BAT INDS	421/0	MAGNET	37/75
BARCLAYS	412/0	MARKS&SP	173/0
BASS	780/0	MAXWELL C	219/0
BEAZER	478/0	METAL BOX	231/0
BEECHAM	345/0	NEPC	530/0
BERRIFORD	350/0	NIDLAND BK	436/0
BICC PLC	350/0	NEST	230/0
BLUE ARROW	102/4	NTH FOODS	304/0
BLUE CIRC	448/0	P & O DFD	475/0
BUC GP	10/58	PEARSON	745/0
BOOTS CO	225/0	PILKINGTON	209/0
BPB INDS	275/0	PLESLEY	166/0
BR COMM	243/0	PRUDENTIAL	165/0
BR AIRWAY	149/0	RACAL	330/0
BR AEROSP	470/0	RANK HVIS	466/0
BR GAS RG	184/0	RANK ORG	705/0
BR GAS RT	175/0	RECKITT+CO	915/0
B.P.	259/0	REDLAND	443/0
B.P. NEW	60/0	REED	443/0
B.P. RY	257/0	RYL BK SC	477/0
BR TELCOM	244/0	RMC GAP	477/0
BURMAN OL	547/0	REUTERS	516/0
BURTON	216/0	RTZ CORP.	437/4
CABLE&WIR	370/0	ROLLS ROY	138/0
CADBURYS	380/0	ROTHMAN B	413/0
COATS VTY	235/0	ROYNAL INS	403/0
COIN UNIT	305/0	SAATCHI	348/0
CONS GOLD	002/0	SAINSBURY	216/0
COOKSON	265/0	SCOT-NEV	317/0
COURTAULD	348/0	SEARS	130/0
DALGETY	347/0	SEEDWICK	232/0
DEE CP	182/0	SHELL	045/0
DIXONS	178/0	SMITH IND	125/0
ENG CHINA	468/0	SMITH+MEPH	277/0
ENTER OIL	483/0	STC	276/0
FKI BARCK	127/0	STORES	267/0
FERRANTI	93/0	SUN ALLIA	985/0
GEN ACCID	914/0	TARMAC	227/0
GEN ELEC	157/0	TATE&LE	888/0
GLAND	955/0	TESCO	42/85
GRANADA	296/0	THORN ENI	635/0
GLOBE	143/0	TRAF HSE	308/0
GLYNED	311/0	TSS	107/0
GRAND MET	493/0	T+N	175/0
GUARD RYL	191/0	TRUSTEE	248/0
GUN	322/0	ULTRAMAR	287/0
GUINNESS	24/67	UNILEVER	475/0
HUMBERS A	618/0	UNISAT	314/0
HANSON	141/0	UNITEC	312/0
HUKER SID	528/0	UTD WSPR	420/0
HILLSDON	73/00	WELLCOME	520/0
ICI	027/0	WHITBRO	306/0
IMI	202/0	WILLIAMS	288/0
		WILFIS FB	262/0
		WIMPEY GE	232/0
		WOOLWORTH	81/28

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
1ST CHARL	12/4	13/0
2ND ALLCE	736/0	739/0
A B PORTS	531/0	530/0
A.B.ELECT	443/0	446/0
AAB KENT	91/0	92/0
AAH HLD	277/0	276/0
AARONSON	125/0	125/0
ACRE OIL	220/0	220/0
ADDISON	39/0	40/0
ADVEST	363/0	363/0
ALEX WKW	173/0	173/0
ALEXON	385/0	385/0
ALD COLL	130/0	130/0
ALD IR B	265/0	265/0
ALD LND	125/0	125/0
ALD PLNT	61/0	61/0
ALLIANCE	831/0	828/0
AMARI	273/0	273/0
AMEC	378/0	378/0
AMER TRST	126/4	126/4
AMERSHAM	445/0	446/0
AMH HLTHC	252/0	253/0
ANGELA TV	180/0	179/0
ANGLO O'S	212/0	212/0
ANSBACHER	84/0	83/0
APPLEYARD	484/0	483/0
APRICOT	123/0	123/0
APV PLC	117/0	117/0
AQUAS.A.	79/0	78/0
ARAN ENGY	78/0	78/0
ARCHER AJ	126/0	125/0
ARLINGTON	192/0	193/0
ARMSTRONG	140/0	140/0
ASS NEWS	498/0	498/0
ASTRA HLD	35/4	34/0
AT ASST	51/0	51/0
ATLANTIC CN	493/0	490/0
ATWOODS	290/0	290/0
AUS REE A	277/0	277/0
AUST REED	378/0	378/0
AUTO SECS	261/0	262/0
AVON RUBB	728/0	730/0
B.WEMILL	177/0	176/0
BAILL SHI	81/4	82/0
BAIRD (W)	263/0	262/0
BANK IRE	257/0	258/0
BANKER IT	72/0	73/0
BARKER DO	131/0	130/0
BARKER DEV	172/0	171/0
BARNEYS C.	29/0	29/0
BBA GROUP	179/0	179/0
BEAR B.M.T	5/0	5/0
BEAR BRID	10/4	10/4
BEHAVEN	51/0	52/0
BELLWAY	245/0	245/0
BENMORE	219/0	220/0
BENLOX HD	52/0	52/0
BENTALLS	182/0	183/0
BHAR NINT	170/0	170/0
BIRNAD OL	401/0	401/0
BK OF SCO	393/0	394/0

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCI COM	30/0	29/6
ATLANTIC R	80/7	81/1
AAR CORP	25/5	25/5
ABBOTT LAB	44/1	44/1
ACME CLVLD	10/3	10/4
ADV MICRO	13/5	13/5
AEROPOL LAB	8/3	8/4
AETNA LIFE	44/2	44/1
AMANNON	15/1	15/2
AIR PR-CHM	46/5	46/4
ALASKA AIR	18/2	18/1
ALBERTSONS	32/2	32/1
ALBMA 8-16	0	82/0
ALCAN ALUM	30/4	30/5
ALCO STAND	24/5	24/6
AN CYNAMID	50/1	50/1
AN ELET PW	27/6	27/5
AN HOM PRO	73/2	73/3
AN HOM PRO	79/5	79/7
AN STORD	0	77/7
AM STOKES	49/0	49/0
AM TEL-TEL	26/2	26/2
AMCO CORP	76/0	76/0
AMP INC	45/7	45/7
ANPCO PITT	0	13/1
AMR CORP	45/0	44/7
AM GEN CO	29/5	29/6
AMERGEN HE	27/7	27/8
ANTHEM ELE	12/7	13/0
APACHE CP	8/0	8/0
APACHE PET	2/6	2/6
ARMSTRONG	36/2	36/6
ASHLD INC	72/5	72/6
ASIA PACIF	7/1	7/2
ATLS CORP	36/0	35/6
AVERT INT	25/0	25/0
AVNET INC	23/0	23/1
AVON PRODS	24/7	25/0
BCE INC	30/2	30/1
BELL SOUTH	40/7	40/6
BELLO CP A	28/4	28/4
BETH STEEL	24/2	24/2
BEVERLY	6/8	6/8
BK BOSTON	27/5	27/5
BK BOSTN-A	0	46/5
BK N-YORK	34/5	34/5
BK TR-NY	35/7	36/0
BKAMERICA	13/4	13/4
BKAM SPEC	7/0	6/7
BOEING CO	59/0	59/0
BOISE CASC	43/2	43/3
BORDEN	50/4	50/5
BOATR	30/0	30/4
BR TELECOM	0	42/7
BRIGGS-STR	32/1	32/3
BRIST-WYER	41/5	41/4
BRUNSWICK	21/0	21/2
BURDICK CP	11/1	11/1
C 3 INC	11/0	11/0
CABOT CORP	36/2	36/1
CANADIAN PAC	27/2	27/2
CAS FREIGHT	0	20/6
CAS NAT-DOE	14/6	14/7
CAT-CHUCK	26/1	26/1
CATERPIL TR	62/1	62/1
CB I IND	29/6	29/6
CBS	157/6	158/0
CENTEL CP	42/4	42/4
CHAMP INTL	33/3	33/4
CHAMP SPA	11/4	11/5
CHARTER CO	3/7	3/7
CHASE MAN	28/5	28/4
CHRYSLER	0	32/4
CHEM BANK	29/3	29/4
CHEVRON	47/1	47/0
CHRYSLER	22/7	22/6
CHUBB CORP	53/2	53/0
CHUR FR CH	6/2	6/2
CIGNA CORP	45/0	45/2
CIR MILAC	23/1	23/1
CIR CIT ST	32/1	32/2
CITICORP	15/7	15/6
CLARK EQUI	31/5	31/6
CLOCK	28/2	28/0
COMBIL RES	1/2	1/3
COMBIL SP	24/7	25/0
COM CAN	18/3	18/3
COMACHEN	12/0	11/7
COASTAL	29/5	29/6
COCA-COLA	37/6	37/5
COLECO	1/6	1/7
COLEMAN CO	39/4	39/3
COLG-PALAM	41/6	42/0
COLUMBIA	31/1	30/7
COLUMBUS-C	0	113/4
COM EDISON	28/6	28/7
CONAGRA	30/3	30/3
CON EDISON	43/3	43/4
CONTINENTAL	38/7	39/0
CONT'L ILLN	0	0
CONTEL CP	35/7	35/6
CONTR DATA	22/3	22/2
COOPER T-R	40/0	39/6
COOPER COR	10/2	10/1
CORNING GL	57/6	57/6
CRANE	30/1	30/1
CRAY RES	80/2	80/2
CULLINET	7/0	7/5
DANIEL IND	0	0
DATA GEN	19/3	19/4
DATAPONT	5/0	5/1
DAYTON HLD	35/1	35/1
DEC	105/1	103/4
DEERE CO	44/4	44/2
DELTA AIR	51/0	50/7
DIAMOND SH	15/6	15/7
DIBOLD	36/3	36/4
DISNEY W	61/0	60/6
DOVER CORP	64/5	64/3
DON CHENIC	86/0	86/0
DON JONES	33/5	33/4
DRESSER IN	30/2	30/2
DREYFUS	26/3	26/2
DUKE POWER	44/3	44/4
DUN BRAD	48/6	48/6
DUPONT	86/5	86/1
DYNALINE	15/1	15/1
DYNAMICS	0	23/2
E SYSTEMS	30/1	30/0
EAGLE PICH	30/0	30/0
EASTERN G	23/6	23/6
EMERSON EL	29/2	29/4
EMERSON RA	3/6	3/6
ETHYL CP	22/0	22/2
EXON	45/7	45/5
FAN DOL ST	13/7	13/7
FED EXPRESS	42/0	42/0
FIELDCREST	22/1	22/1
FIN COR-AM	1/0	1/0
FLEETWOOD	22/5	22/4
FMC CORP	35/1	35/2
FORD MOTOR	51/3	51/3
FORD HOMAR	53/7	53/7
FOXBORO CO	30/2	30/4
FRCHLD IND	10/1	10/2
FST BANK	22/2	22/1

MEREDITH	29/3	29/2	SCOTT PPR	38/0	31/7
MERRILL LY	26/2	26/2	SCOTTVS	13/0	12/1
MESA OIL	1/2	1/3	SE BANK CO	24/7	24/7
MOBIL OIL	44/2	44/2	SEAGRAM CO	54/6	53/0
MONSANTO	86/6	87/0	SEAGULL INC	13/0	13/1
MONTANA PO	34/2	34/1	SEALED AIR	43/2	43/4
MORGAN JPI	35/4	35/4	SEARS ROE	35/5	35/5
MORT THIO	38/7	38/7	SERV CORP	19/2	19/4
MOTOROLA	48/2	47/6	SHT PAC	21/2	21/6
MTRSH-MCLEN	52/0	52/1	SIRSHN BUT	21/6	21/6
MURPHY OIL	35/5	32/6	SHELL TRAN	72/6	72/6
NAT INTERG	16/1	16/3	SHER PLOU	51/5	51/5
NBI CORP	4/3	4/4	SMITH INT	8/7	8/7
NCR CORP	57/3	57/2	SMITHK BEC	46/3	46/3
NEW ENG EL	22/5	22/6	SNAP ON TL	36/7	36/7
NEW PLAS RE	14/1	14/1	SOURCE CAP	37/0	37/2
NIEMELI CO	44/2	44/1	SOUTHERN	22/0	22/0
NIEMOUTH HI	40/5	40/4	SPAIN FUND	10/4	10/3
NIKMATI GLD	39/6	39/5	SPERRY	12/3	12/3
NI NORG-10	0	60/0	SQUARE D	50/7	50/5
NI NORG-72	0	75/1	SQUIBB		
NICOLET-7	11/2	11/3	STONE CONT	35/0	35/2
NICOR INC	30/6	30/5	SUN CO	57/3	57/3
NI INDOS	6/2	6/2	SUNSTRAND	50/6	50/4
NOBLE AFF	11/2	11/5	SUNSH MIN	4/4	4/3
NOV RESOU	10/4	10/3	SUPER VAL	21/4	21/3
NORTHROP	30/6	30/3	SOUTHWEST	18/4	18/4
NORTON	54/6	54/6	SV GAS	20/1	20/1
NOVO IND	33/1	33/1	SWI BELL	37/4	37/3
NUCOR INC	44/4	44/6	TANDY CORP	44/2	44/3
OK INDOS	1/1	1/2	TDK	71/4	71/0
OK PETROPC	26/0	26/0	TECO ENERG	22/5	22/6
OCEAN DRILL	15/4	15/5	TEKTRONIX	23/2	23/2
ODGM CORP	26/6	26/5	TELEDYNE	323/1	323/2
OH ED CO	17/7	17/7	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
OHIO WATT	47/0	47/2	TERADYNE	16/7	16/5
OLIN CORP	18/7	18/7	TESORO PET	9/7	9/7
OMNICARE	8/0	8/1	TEX AMER B	1/5	1/5
ORION P'CT	0	14/6	TEX EAS TR	22/2	21/5
PAINE WEB	15/7	15/5	TEXACO	47/1	47/0
PAN AM	2/5	2/5	TEX IND	37/3	37/3
PANHANDLE	24/2	24/2	TEX INST	44/0	44/0
PARK ELECT	19/7	19/1	TEXTRON	24/1	24/1
PARKER DIR	4/1	4/1	THOMPSON HED	0	21/1
PARKER HAN	33/2	33/1	TIGER	6/3	6/3
PATCO PET	4/0	4/1	TIGER INT	12/4	12/2
PATYSS CSH	26/5	26/6	TINKEN	70/0	70/0
PULLMAN CO	7/4	7/4	TORCHMARK	30/7	31/0
PC INDUS-96	0	90/0	TOSCO	3/2	3/2
PENN CENT	21/7	22/0	TOYS R US	37/4	36/6
PENNMAL	77/5	77/4	TRANSPAR	33/0	32/7
PENNZOIL	70/7	70/1	TRANSCO EN	31/7	31/7
PEOPLES EN	20/1	20/1	TRANSCO EX	6/7	6/5
PEPSICO	35/1	35/0	TRAVELLERS	31/7	31/0
PFIZER	50/4	50/6	TRINITY INT	31/6	31/7
PHILIPS DOD	41/3	40/4	TRN CORP	17/4	17/4
PHILIP MOR	50/0	50/0	TRANSWORLD	33/6	33/6
PHILIPS PE	17/2	17/0	ULAM CORP	94/4	94/2
PILLSBURY	34/4	35/5	UTO BRAND	16/4	16/2
PINNACLE U	24/1	24/2	UTO TECH	37/0	37/0
PITR-BOMES	41/3	41/4	UNILEVER	54/4	54/2
PITTSORG	16/1	16/0	UNION CAMP	33/7	33/0
POLAROID	41/1	41/0	UNION CARB	0	22/2
PORTLAND GE	21/7	22/0	US SHOE	18/4	18/4
PRIME CON	14/2	14/3	USX CP.	30/3	30/1
PRIME INNS	35/6	35/5	US MEST	54/2	54/0
PRIMERICA	25/2	25/0	U	35/0	34/0
PROCT-GAMB	73/2	73/3			
PUGET SP-L	18/6	18/6	VALERO EN	8/7	8/6
PULTE HOME	7/5	7/5	VARCO INTL	2/5	2/6
QUAKER OAT	44/4	44/2	VARCO INTL	5/1	5/2
QUAKER OIL	20/4	20/5	VARIAN ASS	29/0	27/2
QUAKER CH	94/3	94/5	VIRI DEPP	36/7	36/4
RAIERS PURIN	75/3	76/0	WALCO OIL	6/1	6/2
RAMADA INN	7/5	7/5	WAL HART	32/2	32/0
RANGER OIL	5/5	5/5	WALGREEN	32/3	32/2
RAYCHEM	47/7	47/5	WANGER CORP	35/4	35/5
RAYMARK	0	5/0	WANGER, LAM	66/3	66/4
RAYTHEON	65/6	65/5	WASTE MAN	34/3	34/3
REGAL INTL	21/5	21/5	WASH GAS-L	25/7	25/5
REYNOLD ME	52/2	51/6	WEST INTL	5/8	5/6
RJR NABISC	49/2	49/3	MENDO CO	14/0	13/7
ROCHES G-E	18/0	18/0	WESTINGHSE	52/4	52/2
ROCKAWAY C	9/5	9/7	WILLIAMS C	29/7	29/7
ROCKWELL	20/6	20/5	WILLIAMS E	71/6	71/5
ROCK INDS	29/0	29/0	WINNBERG	10/5	10/6
ROLLINS EN	18/2	18/3	WINN-DIXIE	38/0	37/7
ROLLINS IN	17/1	16/7	WOOLWORTH	48/5	48/4
ROPER INC	33/3	34/7	WOOLWORTH	5/4	5/4
ROYAL CORP	5/1	5/1	WYLE LABS	9/7	10/0
ROYAL DUTCH	112/6	112/6	XEROX CORP	53/3	53/3
RYSE BERRIE	21/5	21/6	XTRA INC	0	32/7
RYDER SYST	25/2	25/1	ZAPATA	2/7	2/7
RYLAND GRP	17/5	17/3	ZAYRE CORP	20/0	20/0
S DIEG G-E	34/0	34/1	ZENITH EL	23/2	23/4
SALOMON	25/0	23/0	ZERO	15/7	16/0
SARAA LEE	36/5	36/4			

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 28-29, 1998

International Bond Highlights

London — LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton launched a 150 mln ECU five year eight pct Eurobond at 101-1/2 pct, lead Deutsche Bank capital markets said. (RTTE 0829) In Paris, LVMH said it was issuing a 900 mln French franc 8-1/2 pct Eurobond due 1991 at 101-1/8 pct. (RTTN 1030) The ECU bond will be swapped into a fixed interest loan. Proceeds of the issues will help finance the Guinness Plc stake LVMH has agreed to take. (RTXS 1402)

London — General Electric Capital Corp. a unit of General Electric Co. is issuing a 300 mln dir Eurobond due Aug 24, 1995 paying 9-1/2 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct, lead manager Banque Paribas capital markets said. (RTYH 1414)

London — Exclusive Finance Number One Plc is issuing a 135 mln atg mortgage backed floating rate note paying three month libor plus 30 basis points for the first ten years, lead manager Salomon Brothers International said. (RTZF 0607)

Geneva — Italy's Ente Ferrovie dello Stato is issuing a 175 mln Swiss franc, 12-year, 4-7/8 pct bond priced at par, lead manager S.G. Warburg Sodite SA said. (RTYZ 0706)

London — Banque Paribas Luxembourg SA, a unit of Banque Paribas, is issuing a 65 mln Canadian dir Eurobond due Sept 12, 1991 paying 10-1/4 pct and priced at 101-1/4 pct, lead manager Banque Paribas capital markets said. (RTXF 1313)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 9-7/8 5/8	10-7/16 11/16	10-13/16 11/16
FF 4.50/60	4.90/5.00	5.15/25
PAR 7-1/4 3/8	7-3/16 5/16	7-7/16 9/16
ZUR 1-5/8 1-7/8	3-3/8 3-5/8	3-3/4 4
BOM 3.95	6-13/16 7/8	7-1/8 3/16
ROM 10 10-1/2	10-3/4 11-1/4	11 11-1/2
AMS 4-5/8 4-7/8	4-15/16 5-1/16	5-1/8 5-1/4
TOK 3.750 8125	4.0000 0625	4.0625 1250
ECU 6.62 6.87	6.81 6.93	7.18 7.31

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Offered	Bid
1 month	5-1/16	5-7/16
3 months	5-11/16	6-1/16
6 months	5-15/16	6-5/16
1 year	6-1/16	6-1/2

BOMBAY

	PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	62	61	61	NICO	607.50	600	605
ACC	231	239	235	GRASH	110	110	118	NOCIL	460	450	470
ASIA PAINT	160	160	156.25	GSFC	138	140	134	ORRAY	30.50	30	28.50
BAJAJ AUTO	246.25	250	243.75	RIND LEVER	69	69.50	69	PEICO	30	31	30.50
BAR. RAYON	257.50	260	255	HINDALCO	88	93	92	PFIZER	63	63	63
BOM. DYING	117	117	113	HINDCO	81.25	80	80	PRE. AUTO	32.50	34	32
BR. BOND	86	--	--	HINDUNOTR	22.50	--	--	RAYMOND	49	49	48.50
BSE INDEX	595.52	607.42	607.42	TIB. ONE	24.50	27	25.50	RELIANCE	214.50	214	211
CENTURYSPG	890	892.50	885	INDRAYON	74.50	65	67	SIEMENS	72	72	69
COLGATE	215	220	216.25	INDROL	168.25	168.25	162.50	SPIC	53.50	51.50	50.50
DEEPAKERT	37	38	37	ITC	44	50.50	45	STOWILLS	257.50	245	255
EL. HOTEL	50	50	49	JKSYNT	64.75	64	62	TATA PMR	270	290	275
ESKAYEF	115	120	118.75	L AND T	99.50	105	103	TATACHEM	72	71	69
ESSAR	20.75	20.50	20	MAHINDRA	59.50	60	59	TELCO	665	665	666
GAR. POLY	81	83	80	MASTERSHR	10.50	--	--	TISCO	808.75	830	817.50
GE. SHIP	31.12	30.25	30.25	NATHER. PL	51	--	--	VOLTAS	295	--	--

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AEG	202.2	202.1
ALLIANZ VR	1511.0	1504.0
BADENWERK	182.5	185.0
BASF	258.5	261.0
BAYER	288.5	291.3
BAYER HYP	338.0	342.0
BAYER VER	337.0	338.0
BBC	307.0	306.5
BHF	410.0	409.0
BIM	505.0	511.5
COMMERZBK	234.0	234.0
CONTI GUM	266.0	264.0
DAMIER BUN	687.0	689.0
DEUTSCH BIK	473.0	472.0
DLW	361.0	365.0
DRESNER B	253.5	252.5
DT. BASCOCK	172.5	173.0
FAL INDEX	485.09	481.94
FELD MUEHLE	268.8	269.4
GOLDSCHEID	281.0	284.0
HARPER	429.5	422.0
HOECHST AG	269.5	271.4
HOESCH	143.0	143.5
HORTEN	200.1	200.0
HUSSEL HLD	417.0	424.8
KALZ SALZ	162.0	164.9
KARSTADT	423.0	426.0
KAUHOFF	350.5	354.0
KLOECK H	127.0	126.0
KLOECK W	0	101.00
LIHDE	665.0	665.0
LUFTHANSA	142.5	143.8
MAN	196.5	197.5
MANHESMAN	163.0	164.0
MERCEDES	554.0	557.0
METALLBERG	309.5	310.0
NIXDORF PF	424.0	431.2
NORSK HYD	61.80	62.30
PHILIP KOP	590.0	588.5
PORSCHE	531.0	532.0
PREUSSAG	176.0	179.0
PWA	216.0	215.0
RHEINMETAL	290.0	286.0
RUE	229.0	233.0
RUE P	216.5	219.5
SALAMANDER	204.0	206.5
SCHERING	507.0	512.0
SEL	295.5	300.0
SIEMENS	419.0	421.3
THYSEN	146.3	147.0
VEBA	281.5	278.0
VERA	251.7	250.0
VEN	159.4	159.4
VOLKSWAGEN	253.2	255.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
C H TUNNEL	15.70	15.70
CHUNG K	7.65	7.65
CHINA GAS	17.00	17.00
CHINA L-P	17.50	17.50
CHINA MTR	22.80	22.70
COSMO PROP	4.00	4.00
EVERGO IND	.53	.52
FAR EAST C	.82	.82
GEN ORIENT	0	9.70
H S DEVELOP	9.70	655.62
H K INDEX	665.23	5.20
HANG LUNG	30.00	29.90
HANG SENG	0	21.00
HAM PAR BR	7.40	7.40
HK ELEC CO	8.25	8.10
HK KAOLOON	8.15	8.15
HK LAND CO	6.20	6.20
HK SHAN BK	4.83	4.70
HK SHAN HT	6.75	6.80
HK TELE CO	9.30	9.30
HUTCH WHAM	12.70	12.80
IND EQ PAC	13.10	13.00
JARDINE M	9.30	9.55
KOALOM M	11.50	11.30
NEW WORLD	2.73	2.73
PAUL Y DEV	7.00	7.00
REALTY CON	2.30	2.28
S H K CO	11.20	11.00
S H K PROP	2.05	1.92
SINE DARY	2.73	2.68
STELUX WFG	18.50	18.40
SWIRE PAC	13.20	13.20
T V B CO	3.75	3.70
TAI CHEUNG	1.67	1.68
UNITON BANK	0	7.25
WOCK HARD	0	1.15
WOCK MARI	0	3.78
WORLD INTL	3.78	3.73

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	72.50	74.00	72.50
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	.46	.47	.45
AC-A	9.30	9.40	9.40	LC-B	.48	.49	.48
AMS	2.60	2.65	2.65	PK-A	.36	.37	.37
FER-A	2.70	2.70	2.70	PK-B	.37	.38	.37
GLO	34.50	35.00	34.50	OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	230.00	231.00	228.00	BP-A	.023	.024	.023
KPSI-A	2.22	2.24	2.24	BP-B	.024	.025	.024
SMC-A	140.00	141.00	141.00	LRC-A	.004	.0042	.004
SMC-B	220.00	225.00		LRC-B	.004	.0042	.0042
MINING SECTOR				OPW-A	.04	.041	.041
APX-A	.039	.04	.039	OPW-B	.041	.043	
APX-B	.04	.041	.04	OV-A	.038	.039	.039
AT-A	20.50	20.75	20.75	OV-B	.038	.039	.039

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
SECTOR	455,385	24,537,755	909.22	1.84 UP
COM. IND.	23,186,400	7,088,475	4,752.67	63.69 DN
MINING	459,500,000	4,985,640	6.603	0.138 DN
OIL	488,141,985	36,611,870	848.68	8.25 DN

PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	72.00	73.00 72.00
SMC-A	141.00	142.00	141.00	LC-A	92.00	97.50
SMC-B	223.00	225.00	223.00	LC-B	.46	.47 .46
SD-TIME	35.50	36.00		LC-B	.48	.49 .48
PLDT	230.00	231.00	230.00	ZIP	.011	.012 .011
AMSOR-A	2.60	2.65	2.65	OIL SECTOR		
AC-A	9.40	9.50	9.40	STOCK	BUY	SELL OPEN
GLO	34.00	34.50	34.00	BP-A	.023	.024 .024
FER-A	2.60	2.70	2.60	BP-B	.024	.025 .025
FER-B	2.60	2.70		LRC-A	.004	.0042 .004
				LRC-B	.0042	.0044 .0042
MINING SECTOR				OPW-A	.04	.041 .041
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPW-B	.041	.042
APX-A	.039	.04	.039	OV-A	.038	.039 .038
APX-B	.04	.041	.04	OV-B	.038	.04
AT-A	20.25	20.50	20.75	TA	.024	.025 .025
AT-B	23.00	23.75				

Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
SECTOR	712,030	31,022,915	909.43	DN 0.92
C/I	141,337,300	9,014,345	4,567.02	DN 165.00
MINING	705,850,000	7,383,800	7.045	DN 0.046
OILS	847,899,330	47,421,060	859.11	DN 10.06

SINGAPORE

NAME	LAST	PR-CLSE	G TOIN	255	LEONGHAT	179
AJINOMOTO	200	200	G U HLDGS	102	M UTD IND	161
ALEXANDRA	175	175	GANDA HDG	39	M UTD MFG	72.5
ANAL IND	100	83	GEN CORP	80.5	M SHITA	620
ANCOL	149	147	GENITING	560	MAYATA	63.5
AKOM TCM	111	111	GOLD COCH	210	MAGNUM	237
BA TOB	166	167	GUINNESS	128	30 MALEX IND	380
C & C	290	286	GULA	342	MCB HLDGS	95
CARLSBERG	550	545	H I IND.	28.5	METAL BOX	456
CHUAN HUP	108	107	HARINAU	142	141 METRO	720
CK TANG	620	575	HAW PAR	396	398 NTC BHD	388
COLD STOR	490	482	HEXZA	84	82.5 MULPHIND	35
DAYAPI	54	46	HUNE IND	180	177 MYRUM	60
DCH	520	520	HUA HONG	102	100 MYCOM BHD	185
DUNLOP IND	106	105	INATREX PE	304	300 NAMELASTPR CL	107
DUNLOPBYE	444	444	INTRACO	705	670 NB TIMBER	107
ELEC MAGN	171	172	J CENENT	100	90 OUS	145
ESSO ORD	386	386	J ENRG	292	281 P MALAYAN	275
EU YAM S.	210	210	JC ENT	113	113 ROBINSON	299
EVERPEACE	100	100	K K HLDGS	130	S PACIFIC	284
F A C B	241	236	K KELLAS	220	S PRESS	740
F B SHIP	970	950	KAMUNTING	100	100 SAN HLDGS	442
FBN ORD	261	256	KE SAING	198	201 SANYO	95
FED CABLE	970	970	KECK SENG	258	255 SEAL INC	100
FED FLOUR	560	560	KENTUCKY	290	285 SHEL ORD	525
FINA BHD	266	252	KEPPEL	220	214 SIA	1190
FUJITEC	656	656	KIAM JOO	141	141 SITH LIM	75
G KENT	76	76	KUMP BHAS	113	114 SOUTH (M)	94
G LUMBER	112	108	L & M GRP	122	117 TIME ENG	155

Singapore Stock Market Report

SINGAPORE STOCKS CLOSE MARGINALLY HIGHER

SINGAPORE, JULY 27, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED MARGINALLY HIGHER ON SPECULATIVE BUYING AND BARGAIN HUNTING AFTER TWO DAYS OF DECLINES, BUT TRADING WAS FAIRLY QUIET, BROKERS SAID.

THE STRAITS TIMES INDUSTRIAL INDEX ROSE 3.83 POINTS TO 1,136.31, AFTER A 5.58 POINT GAIN AT MIDDAY. RISES OUTPACED FALLS BY 131 TO 47. TURNOVER ROSE TO 39.4 MLN SHARES FROM TUESDAY'S CLOSE OF 33.9 MLN. BROKERS SAID MOST OF THE GAINS OCCURRED IN THE MORNING WITH SPORADIC PROFIT-TAKING DURING THE AFTERNOON. MOST INSTITUTIONS STAYED AT THE SIDELINES, AWAITING THE RELEASE OF U.S. GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT DATA.

New rules to strengthen air transport competition

BRUSSELS, July 27, (Reuters) — The European Economic Community, extending its drive to break up Europe's airline cartel, took steps on Tuesday to ensure fair competition between carriers.

The EEC's executive commission announced new rules to make sure that commercial agreements, under which airlines co-ordinate services and also consult on fares, would not hurt the interests of passengers and carriers excluded from the accord.

It also proposed a code of conduct, which will need approval by EEC transport ministers, to ensure computerised reservation systems were not used to distort competition.

About two thirds of all European airline bookings are made through computer reservation systems owned by airlines.

"There is always a temptation for these companies to build into their systems a bias in their own favour, for example through screen presentation, speed of access, or quality of information given," the commission said in a statement.

Offending airlines would be fined for breaching the code, which would also outlaw discriminatory pricing of reservation system subscription fees in order to exclude would-be clients.

The code would cover freight, charter and scheduled passenger traffic.

Meanwhile, EEC Commission yesterday ordered Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi, a state-owned Italian energy concern, to repay 184 million European Currency Units (\$206 million) it received in subsidies from the Italian government.

The commission said losses of the Lanerossi Group, a textile-making subsidiary of ENI, had been effectively covered by state aids for several years.

In 1983, the commission approved about 100 million ECUs (\$112 million) in state aids and said then further aid would not be allowed.

But in 1984 it discovered the approved limit had been exceeded. This led to another investigation resulting in Tuesday's decision.

The commission often investigates government subsidies to business in the 12 EEC states in a bid to promote fair competition by discouraging excessive trade-distorting state subsidies.

In ordering ENI to repay the subsidies, the commission said that it has concluded that competition within the EEC had been adversely affected and that this view was shared by several member states and various textile federations.

ENI sold the Lanerossi Group to Manifattura Lane Gaetano Marzotto and Fighi SPA for 168 billion lire in 1987, creating Italy's largest textile group.

ZURICH

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	OE BUENR I	1045	1020
BAER HDGS	13450	13450	OE BUENR M	235.00	225.00
BALLOISE PS	2075	2060	OE BUENR P	246.00	248.00
BBC I A	2240	2245	RODNE BABY	12150	12150
BK LEU I	2750	2760	ROCHE I	82000	83000
BK LEU N	2350	2400	RUECKVER I	13050	13200
BK LEU PF	420	420	RUECKVER N	5990	5990
CFV	0	1100	RUECKVER P	2040	2040
CIB GEIG I	3300	3285	RY TR BK	1230	1250
CIB GEIG N	1540	1550	S BNKGLS I	3300	3305
CIB GEIG P	2205	2210	S BNKGLS N	600	595
CKW	0	1215	S BNKGLS P	116.00	116.50
CRED SUI I	2550	2550	S BNKVRN I	380	379
CRED SUI N	470	470	S BNKVRN M	285.00	286.00
EG LAUFEN	1825	1825	S BNKVRN P	297	298
ELEKTROMAT	3000	3000	SANDOZ I	12625	12600
ENS CHEN I	3725	3700	SANDOZ N	5175	5150
ENS CHEN P	0	0	SANDOZ PS	2045	2000
GLOBUS I	7300	7300	SULZER	4850	4700
GLOBUS N	6400	6300	SULZER PS	459	455
GLOBUS PS	1225	1250	SVB	1710	1710
JACOBS S I	7705	7650	SWISSAIR	1160	1155
JACOBS S N	1310	1320	SWISSAIR N	970	975
JACOBS S P	665	665	W THUR I	5400	5375
JELM I	2415	2400	W THUR N	2600	2625
JELM PS	365	361	W THUR PS	722	723
LANDIS N	1360	1350	ZURICH I	5800	5780
LANDIS PS	124.00	122.50	ZURICH N	2575	2600
MERCK I	810	810	ZURICH PS	1925	1935

Gold gains

Dollar falls on US GNP, inflation

LONDON, July 27, (Reuters). The dollar fell sharply today after the United States reported that its economy grew somewhat more slowly than independent economists had forecast.

It tumbled more than three pence to just below 1.84 West German marks within half an hour of the US report that America's gross national product (GNP) — the sum of the value of all goods and services — rose 3.1 per cent in the second quarter of 1988.

Gold gained more than \$2 an ounce as the dollar fell and was trading around \$432.50 an ounce.

Growth
The so-called "deflator", the statistical device used to adjust GNP figures to take account of rising prices, also reported today, was bigger than forecast, at 4.1 per cent.

That suggests US inflation is running faster than economists expect.

But currency markets apparently judged that the slower-than-expected GNP growth might mean inflationary pressures were easing.

The dollar had been riding high on expectations that US interest rates would have to rise to dampen inflation. Higher rates would make dollar assets more attractive to investors.

After the report, the US and West German central banks sold dollars to push the US currency down.

"You could call the numbers mildly friendly," said Larry Wachtel, an analyst with Wall Street brokers Prudential Bache. He said he expected Wall Street stocks would be boosted by the news.

US government bonds traded in Europe eased slightly, as the benchmark 30-year US Treasury bond slipped about 25 cents to trade at 99.00 per \$100 face amount of bond.

Decline
The pound sterling jumped following the new US data, having weakened earlier today after Britain announced a bigger-than-expected deficit on its balance of payments for June.

It gained about three cents to trade as high as \$1.7350. But it later steadied below \$1.73. The dollar itself recouped some of its initial decline to trade around 1.85 marks and 131.80 yen at 1315 GMT.

Investors were concerned that a big deficit in Britain's current account balance of payments, which measures imports, exports and payments for international services like banking, tourism and shipping, meant the economy was overheating.

Some think the British government will raise interest rates to cool inflation. Since that could squeeze business profits, they sold shares.

Earlier, Tokyo stock prices rose as the Nikkei stock average gained 434.81 points to 27,738.57.

Blamed
The Australian All-Ordinaries stock index fell 7.2 points to close lower at 1,612.4. Sydney brokers blamed falling precious metal prices.

The Hong Kong stock market rose, with the Hang Seng index ending 9.61 at 2,665.23, following the gains in Tokyo but trading was very thin as investors waited to see how Wall Street would react to the US figures. In London share prices were

mixed in late trading around the day's highs despite news of larger than expected British June current account and trade shortfalls.

Market-makers took prices to the day's lows in an initial reaction to a £1.02 billion current account deficit and a £1.52 billion trade gap but selling interest failed to materialise in a market largely braced for bad news. Prices subsequently recovered.

At 1500 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was one point higher at 1,838.7 having touched a low of 1,828.7 on a turnover of 313.9 million shares.

Dealers said the muted reaction to the balance of payments data, showing deficits at the top end of most economists' forecasts, pointed to a more mature attitude to Britain's likely trading position for the year. Economists expect a year deficit of around £10 billion on the current account.

The market's initial response was coloured by uncertainty over US second quarter gross national product (GNP) data. The late improvement to British

equity prices was in part attributed to a slightly smaller than expected 3.1 per cent rise in US GNP, modest gains on the New York market and advances in sterling against the dollar.

The comfortable equity response to the British trade figures was mirrored in money market rates which ended lower with the key three month sterling inter-bank rate 1/8 point off at 10-13/16 1/16 per cent.

Dealers said the authorities are relatively content to see base rates hold the current 10-1/2 per cent in the medium term, given the pace of recent rate rises.

Analysts suggested an additional supporting factor for shares is the estimated 15 per cent annualised rate of corporate earnings growth. Charles Larkum, equity strategist at brokers James Capel, said "earnings growth is fairly strong at the present time and this will serve to underpin prices in the medium term."

Among the international stocks ICI was 4p off at 1,030 reflecting sterling gains and ahead of six month results due tomorrow.

Spanish oil company prepares for big stock market flotation

MADRID, July 27, (Reuters). Spain's state oil company Repsol is fighting to establish itself as a force in the European petroleum industry as it prepares to launch the biggest stock offering in Spanish history.

Repsol, formed last year after the government approved the merger of several state energy firms into a single unit, bought stakes in oil concessions recently in South America and Asia.

The company is also negotiating the sale of 10 per cent of its capital to Mexican state concern Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) in exchange for a long-term oil supply contract from the Latin American oil producer.

Deal
"We would like to conclude a deal with PEMEX before we are floated on the stock exchange," Repsol chairman Oscar Fanjul said in an interview. "But we are not going to hold up our flotation plans if there are delays in finalising the deal."

Repsol plans to offer up to 30 per cent of its stock to private investors in the first half of next year. Oil industry analysts in London say the company's total market worth is between \$3 and \$4 billion.

Arrangement
With interests in oil, petrochemicals and liquid gas, Repsol had consolidated turnover in 1987 of 930.6 billion pesetas (\$8.45 billion), making it Spain's biggest industrial company. A long-term arrangement with

an oil producing country is a key plank in Repsol's preparations to fend off competition from foreign oil multinationals as Spain's tightly protected domestic oil market is loosened up.

"We now produce about one-third of what we refine," Fanjul said. "What we want to raise to about one-half within the next two years." Repsol refined 22 million tonnes of crude oil last year, making it by far Spain's biggest refiner.

Restrictions on foreign companies setting up filling stations here are to be phased out by 1992, when Spain completes its process of integration into the European Economic Community.

Supplier
Mexico is already Spain's biggest supplier of crude. Repsol is not alone among Spanish oil companies in seeking a partnership with an oil producer.

In January, Compañia Española de Petroleos S.A. (CEPSA), private refiner, sold 10 per cent of its stake to the International Petroleum Investment Company, owned by the Abu Dhabi government.

Union Explosivos Rio Tinto, a chemicals firm which operates an oil refinery, was recently

acquired by a fertiliser firm in which the Kuwait Investment Office has a dominant stake. Fanjul says he welcomes competition from foreign companies and is convinced Repsol can hang on to its 50 per cent share of the Spanish market.

Repsol also wants to buy filling stations in other European countries. "Britain is a possibility and we are looking at opportunities in Italy. It's a question of profitability," he said.

The oil group only recently started to develop Repsol as a brand-name. Most of Repsol's refined output is still marketed through the state oil monopoly company, Campsa, in which Repsol holds a 56.7-per-cent stake.

So far the only international oil company to establish a presence in Spain has been British Petroleum, which earlier this year set up a joint venture company with private refiner Petroleos Del Mediterraneo S.A.

"I think Repsol can hold on to 50 per cent of the market because of its sheer size," Spedding said. "The market will not be fully opened until 1992 by which time Repsol will be established as a brand."

The bulk of the Repsol share issue next year will be aimed at Spanish private investors, prompting doubts among some financial analysts in London whether the Spanish capital market is sophisticated enough to absorb the offering.

As budget minister, Salinas was the architect of market-oriented changes

Latin America may toughen its debt stance

MEXICO CITY, July 27: Latin American governments seem certain to press even more strongly for relief from payments on the region's \$400 billion foreign debt over the next 12 months, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Throughout the area, economic decline has predominated in this decade, becoming a prime issue for opposition candidates. Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, leader of a left-wing coalition, placed a strong second in Mexico's July 6 elections, arguing that onerous debt payments were the cause of Mexico's stagnation.

Several other left-leaning politicians, including Peronist leader Carlos Saul Menem in Argentina, Venezuela's Carlos Andres Perez and Brazil's Leonel Brizola are basing their thrusts for power on the message that debt servicing condemns their countries to more misery. All three are favoured to win presidential races before the end of the next year.

Relief
But whatever the election results, calls by these men for debt relief will be a focus of debate in campaigns fought against a background of high inflation, falling real wages and

economic stagnation. Moreover, like the Mexican government of Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, the administrations of the region's two other largest debtors, Brazil and Argentina, will be hard-pressed to counter populist appeals.

Their faltering attempts to balance budgets, slash the state sector and open economies to foreign competition may have laid the basis for growth, but have as yet produced none.

The changes have been much more popular with US officials than with local people who must live with their immediate effects on jobs and living standards.

"We're going to have to worry about the politics more than in the past," says a New York-based US banker. Harvard economist Jeffrey Sachs argues that "anyone watching Latin America can see the region going sour. On the debt, if on nothing else, Cardenas is right."

Certainly, many Mexicans think so. Cardenas's stunning success in this month's presidential election, when he took close to a third of the vote and loosened the traditional stranglehold of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, illustrated that attacking debt

payments wins votes. The delicate dilemma faced by Mexican President-elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari is shared by other political moderates in the region.

As budget minister, Salinas was the architect of market-oriented changes approved by the US Treasury and the International Monetary Fund.

Some state companies have been sold to the private sector, import tariffs lowered, foreign investment encouraged. A serious attempt has been made to cut public spending and the federal deficit. Inflation, for the moment, has been lowered.

He has vowed to continue these policies as president but has scant room for manoeuvre. The election outcome makes him the weakest Mexican president to take office in 50 years. He will be under pressure to produce economic growth soon to assuage popular discontent and stem an apparent drift leftward. But there is widespread disillusionment with the fact that the economy hasn't grown for six years. And Cardenas is suddenly there to channel it.

De la Madrid paid the internal price for good relations with foreign creditors," says political

scientist Lorenzo Meyer. "Salinas doesn't have the political capital to do so."

The president-elect is aware of his predicament. "If we don't grow because of the weight of the debt, we don't pay," he said two months ago in a speech in the northern city of Monterrey. Chief debt negotiator Angel Gurría says that "with growth now being an imperative, anything standing in the way of it will take second place."

He adds that means must be found to cut about \$2 billion from Mexico's annual \$8 billion interest bill, equivalent to about 7 per cent of the total value of goods and services that Mexico produces, to lay a solid basis for investment and the 4 per cent to 5 per cent annual growth in the 1990s sought by Salinas.

Bonds
Neither Gurría nor the president-elect favours confrontation with creditors. A new debt-for-bond swap, more flexible than the one that reduced Mexico's debt by a disappointing \$1.1 billion earlier this year, is being prepared. The idea is to take advantage of the discount at which Mexican debt trades in secondary markets to get banks to tender their loans in return for

a smaller amount of bonds.

Gurría is trying to persuade Western governments to guarantee part of the interest on these bonds, making them potentially more attractive than the earlier swap in which only principal was backed by the US. The aim is to cut the debt by several billion dollars.

The Mexicans see this offering as a crucial test of whether governments, banks and debtors can work together to lessen the debt load enough to make room for growth. If it fails there will be tough choices, which nobody wants to anticipate. But Jose Juan de Ollague, general director of Banca Serfin S.N.C., Mexico's third-largest bank says, "I think Salinas is prepared to take a harder line." A PRI veteran with close government contacts, he believes there is agreement that payments must be brought down to about 5 per cent of gross national product.

Mexico, with its new political uncertainties, will be watched closely throughout the region. Bordering the US, it is seen as a litmus test of government determination to obtain debt relief. Latin American leaders will meet in Uruguay in October to review the debt situation.

Pakistan boosts exports to EEC

BRUSSELS, July 27: Pakistan had every reason to feel satisfied with the outcome of the 11th session of the EEC-Pakistan Joint Commission, held here recently. The fact is that its exports to the 12-nation community are doing very well. They rose by 47 per cent last year, as against a rise of 20 per cent in its global exports, reports Economic Times.

Exports of cotton-related products (raw cotton, carpets, textiles and clothing), which account for two-thirds of the country's total exports to the EEC, rose sharply — by 36 per cent as regards all MFA products. Exports of leather and leather goods, which account for 15 per cent of the total, did well also. As a result, Pakistan's trade deficit continued to fall. It has halved, in fact, between 1984 and 1987, falling from ECU 800m to ECU 365m.

Surge
But for the sudden surge last year in India's textile exports, Pakistan would have held on to its lead. In 1986 Pakistan's exports came to 59,500 tonnes, as compared to 46,800 tonnes for India. Last year they rose by 34 per cent to nearly 80,000 tonnes. But India's textile exports surged ahead by 133 per cent to 109,000 tonnes. Even so, if India ranked fourth last year among the EEC's foreign suppliers, just behind China and Switzerland, Pakistan was not far behind, in 7th place, just after the US and Austria.

Pakistan's textile exporters have been helped by (1) the more liberal textile agreement concluded in 1986 and (2) the 1987 improvements to the Community's GSP scheme for textiles.

The expansion and modernisation of the country's textile industry has also helped. Informal sources claim that the EEC has been quicker this year and last to restrict its textile imports from Pakistan than from India because of the former's much

greater recourse to Japanese machinery.

Pakistan's excellent overall export performance also reflects better use of the GSP. Its commerce secretary, R.A. Akhund, welcomed the 1988 improvements to the community's GSP scheme. A technical workshop on GSP utilisation will be held in Pakistan this autumn.

Ironically, Pakistan has not increased its share of exports of Basmati rice, despite the tariff concession granted by the EEC to India and Pakistan. The latter claims, however, that at least some of the rice shipped from India to the UK for processing is of Pakistani origin, having been smuggled into India.

Importance

Of the two issues to which Pakistan attaches the most importance is its exports to the EEC and the community help for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan. This is a subject quite outside the scope of the EEC-Pakistan economic and commercial co-operation agreement, of course. But on this issue also Pakistan had no grounds for complaint.

The EEC gives around ECU 20m, a year, mostly in food aid, for the three million or so Afghan refugees; this is roughly the same amount as its development aid to Pakistan. During the joint commission meeting, Pakistan's representative thanked the EEC for its aid for the refugees. He asked the aid be continued, and even expanded, as the refugees were unlikely to return until there was a political settlement in Afghanistan.

Progress

The EEC summit in Hanover had already expressed its willingness to continue community aid and adapt it to the changing circumstances.

Compared to India, progress in the area of economic co-operation

has been much slower. A small team of European businessmen visited Pakistan earlier this year on behalf of EEC and returned with a number of ideas; but Islamabad has since expressed a desire to put in proposals of its own. Officials from both sides will meet in autumn to decide on a programme of industrial co-operation.

The joint commission also discussed co-operation in the fields of science and technology, training, fisheries and energy. An air pollution project has just been launched and Pakistani scientific institutes are co-operating with EEC research centres in research into tropical agriculture and medicine.

The EEC is also helping train Pakistani water and electricity engineers and providing financial and technical aid for the Baluchistan Agricultural College. Officials from the Karachi fishery port have completed a study tour of EEC ports. The community is also providing technical aid to help Islamabad fight drug addiction among young Pakistanis.

Aid

The EEC's development aid programme in Pakistan amounts to roughly ECU 20m, a year, but the rate of disbursement is slow. This is partly because of a shortage of projects, due in part to a lack of interest on Pakistan's part.

The community, in fact, sent an identification mission to Pakistan last year in the hope of developing a pipeline of projects to draw on. The joint commission discussed ways of improving the utilisation of community aid, although some EEC sources were doubtful whether a largely feudal society is genuinely committed to the kind of development aid the community favours, with its emphasis on helping the poorer sections of the population.

KFH to give KD40m loan to citizens a year

THE assistant director-general at Kuwait Finance House, Sulaiman Al Braikan, has been quoted as saying that KD40 million per annum will be made available to citizens in the form of real estate loans.

In an interview with a local daily, Al Braikan said that, although the state was paying considerable attention to the housing sector, the contribution of the private sector in this respect was essential in order to maximise assistance to citizens and minimise the time spent waiting to obtain property.

Loans
Speaking of conditions regarding real estate loans, he said that the applicant should pay 40 to 50 per cent of property value and thereafter settle the remainder by instalments.

He added that the applicant should transfer his monthly salary to Kuwait Finance House in addition to the cheques for the amount of the monthly instalments. Furthermore, the borrower should be sponsored by a third party who is required to undertake to repay the loan in the case of the borrower's default.

Al Braikan also said that more than one party could take out a loan, such as a man and his wife or a father and son.

Saudi riyal rates steady

BAHRAIN, July 27, (Reuters). Saudi riyal deposit rates were steady today in a thin Bahrain market as banks geared up for trade after the Muslim Eid Al Adha holiday.

Traders reported little activity, with Saudi banks closed and due only to re-open on Saturday. Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) clearing is to resume on Sunday.

Rates were little changed from before the holiday. One and three-months were quoted at 8-3/4, 1/2 per cent, six-months at 8-13/16, 9/16 per cent and one-year at nine, 8-3/4 per cent.

The spot riyal was indicated at 3.7510/15 to the dollar.

Call to invest in areas yielding quick results

Chavan on investment priorities

NEW DELHI, July 27: Finance Minister S.B. Chavan has warned that the country's balance of payments position "is very difficult" and stressed the need to redirect investment to areas which could yield quick results in improving the overall payments situation.

Inaugurating a three-day conference of economic editors organised by the Press Information Bureau here last week, the finance minister noted that exports grew by over 23 per cent last year, measured in dollar terms, on top of an increase of over 10 per cent recorded in the previous year.

The new export-import policy and rationalisation of tariffs in recent budgets, despite the mid-term pressures on balance of payments reflected the government's commitment to the principle that the most enduring and reliable solution to the country's balance of payments problem lay in a more internationally competitive economy with a dynamic export sector.

Performance
Chavan visualised a period of "dynamic economic performance" with the recovery of monsoon and projected a growth of 8 per cent or more in the overall gross national product (GNP) this year.

Agricultural production might grow by well over ten per cent, he said.

Industrial growth was likely to be maintained at the high level of around 8 per cent recorded during the past four years, "thus yielding an overall GNP growth of around 8 per cent or more."

For the eighth plan (1990-95), the finance minister said alleviation of poverty would continue to be the primary goal with a special role for agriculture.

Increase
Chavan said that the easing of supply constraints in the current year might be expected to significantly moderate the rate of inflation.

On the trade front, the momentum of growth established in the last two years was expected to be maintained. Giving statistics, the finance minister said the performance of the economy last year, when the country witnessed a worst ever drought, was laudable compared to the performance in similar conditions in the past.

In large measure, Chavan said, the resilience demonstrated by the economy last year must be attributed to the prompt and comprehensive package of measures initiated by the government to contain the adverse impact of drought. Measures on the supply side were matched by steps in demand management to contain inflationary pressures generated by the drought.

Outlining the approach to the eight plan (1990-95), the finance minister recounted that in the past the dual strategy of emphasis on both agricultural growth as well as special anti-poverty and employment generation programmes to support specific target groups had made a "significant dent on the incidence of poverty."

The proportion of people living below the poverty line was expected to decline to about 26 per cent by 1989-90. The planning perspective was to further reduce this proportion to less than ten per cent by 1994-95 and five per cent by the year 2000.

Emphasis
The finance minister said since the ultimate solution for the problem of poverty was productive employment, the special role of agriculture, rural non-agricultural activities and economic activities in the unorganised sector must be recognised. These sectors generally tended to be much more labour intensive than modern large-scale industry.

Agriculture was important not because of its capacity to generate large-scale employment but also because of its crucial role in the maintenance of a high growth path of total GNP.

Chavan said a detailed action plan had been worked out for recovering the momentum of agricultural growth which had been disturbed by successive monsoon failures during the past four years.

The action plan for agriculture aimed at a wider dispersal of high agricultural growth and laid the greatest strategic emphasis on irrigation.

The finance minister said the emphasis on agricultural and allied activities did not mean that modern industrial growth would be less important in an employment-oriented growth programme.

On the contrary, it was the generation of adequate investible surplus over and above the internal requirements of the industry, "which will enable us to finance the large-scale investments" required in agriculture, irrigation, power, rural industries and other service sectors for high employment growth with-out endangering price stability.

Furthermore, it was the growing volume of production in industry which must provide, through backward and forward linkages, the essential engine of growth to drive the labour intensive sectors to a higher growth path, he said.

Strides
The finance minister said major strides have been taken towards promoting efficiency through greater competitiveness. Disfunctional controls were being eliminated and competitiveness promoted through schemes of capacity endorsement, broadbanding and de-licensing.

The dramatic improvements in industrial performance in the recent period "bears out the validity of this course and we must continue to pursue it with vigour," Chavan said.

ing with the market hardly reacting to the steady dollar and gains on Wall Street and in Tokyo. The Swiss index closed 1.3 points higher at 878 points.

PARIS: Shares ended slightly firmer in very thin trading, buoyed by moderate US Gross National Product figures released in the European afternoon. The 50-share bourse price indicator ended 0.3 per cent higher.

LONDON: Share prices were mixed despite news of larger than expected British June current account and trade shortfalls. By 1500 GMT, the FTSE 100 was one point higher at 1,838.7.

NEW YORK: Wall Street blue chips continued to show small gains in morning trading but the general market was narrowly mixed. The Dow was up four at 2078 but issues were mixed.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, July 27, (Reuters). The share market closed easier but off its lows following continuing weakness in the resource sector. The All Ordinaries index fell 7.2 to 1,612.4.

TOKYO: Share prices closed mixed in limited trading when the Bombay Stock Market reopened after being closed for a week. Tata steel rose 8.75 rupees to 817.5.

FRANKFURT: Shares closed a quiet bounce easier and at the worst level of the day, as a 0.4 per cent gain at the start turned into a loss of the same size. The Dax 30-share index closed 5.16 points down at 1,171.28.

SINGAPORE: Shares closed marginally higher on speculative

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8	Reefers Turbo	ISA	2441860
9	Barbara Morgan	Al Rashad	2423642
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16	Frio Chile	Al Bader	2440359
17	Acacia Tree	GH&Q	4747815

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28/7	Mersk Astro	Behbeh	2412085
28/7	Kasuga	ISA	2441860
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29/7	Rhein Express	M.A. Bahar	2433881
29/7	Tokyo Bridge	United	2457958
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Egyptian team arrives in Amman for economic talks

AMMAN, July 27, (AP). Egyptian State Minister Morris Makram Allah arrived in Amman today leading an economic delegation to prepare for the meetings of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian higher committee, the official Jordan news agency reported.

Upon arrival at Queen Alia International Airport, the Egyptian minister was met by his Jordanian counterpart Fayez Al Tarawneh and other officials, the news agency said.

It said Makram Allah "praised the joint achievements between both brotherly countries" in the economic and trade fields.

Efforts

But the minister affirmed that both countries "have to continue efforts to explore means of co-operation in other fields," the agency said.

The joint Jordanian-Egyptian higher committee, scheduled to meet here on Saturday, focuses on implementing joint trade, economic and agricultural projects.

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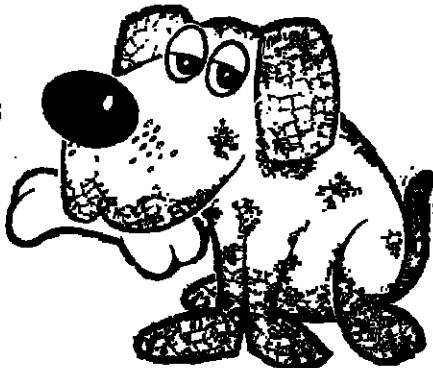
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 لے گی۔" ساقی نے کہا "میں کچھ سے تیس دنوں کے روپے
 حوالہ دے گا۔" "ہاں، یہ بات ہے" انہیں گولیاں اس طرح سے
 حوالہ دے ہو گئی۔
 ایک وقت ایسا بھی آیا کہ انہیں جیل پر قلمی ایگولیاں کی
 جھنڈی تھی۔ جس میں ایک لاکھ روپے دواڑے تھے۔
 اس کی شکل سے کل ڈسٹریکٹ کے لوگوں کو روپے لکھ کر
 لینے۔
 شادی سے قبل انہیں سے کئی ایگولیاں حضور روپے لکھیں
 سب انہوں نے بابہ کے گولیوں کے ساتھ حوالہ دے دیں
 حوالہ دینے کی بجائے کہ انہیں سے ایک ٹکڑے ایک ایسے
 کلمے سے ڈانڈی کر لیا۔ یہ ہے کہ انہیں غائبانہ شادی کر دیے کہ
 وہ ملنے اجاڑنے کے لیے حضور ابراہیم علیہ السلام کی دعا
 کی۔

الہوت سے دو کوب کیا ہے، جلاہ اور اہل حق نے اہل باطن کو کہا کہ
 کہہ کر اہل باطن میں شادیاں کر چکے ہیں اور اس کے لیے جیتے
 ہیں۔ اہل باطن میں تنگ دامن کے جلاہ اور اہل حق کے
 جلاہوں میں سے جس میں درجہ اور کھانہ اور کھانا اور روز
 و شب کے لیے جاتا کہ جس نے اہل حق کو صلہ کرنے کی جاتی
 کو کوشش کی ہے اور صریحاً کہہ کر دیکھ کر جیتی ہے
 کہ اس نے اہل باطن اور اہل حق کی ہوتی ہے اور جلاہ نے جلاہ
 آتشوں کے لیے تعلق، کہ جس نے جلاہ اور اہل حق کے
 وہ ان کو کھانے اور جاتی رہی۔ اس کی شادی سے پہلے
 جسے جلاہ نے اس کے چال اور دست کی جلاہ کے لئے
 منہ سے اس کی جاتی واداشت میں کہ
 جس نے جلاہ اور اہل حق نے اہل باطن کے اہل باطن کے ہیں
 کہ اس سلسلہ میں اس کے خلاف جیتہ کا دعویٰ دائر
 ہے اس کا

اور اہل حق کا کہنے کہ جس نے اپنے عزیزوں اور دوستوں کے
 جلاہ اور اہل حق کے شادیاں کی ہیں جسے جیتی ہے
 ظہری اس میں سے پہلے جلاہ اور اہل حق میں جلاہ کے جلاہ
 کا کہنے کہ ایک اور دعویٰ کہ جلاہ کی جلاہ حق میں
 جلاہ اور اہل حق کے جلاہ کے جلاہ کی جلاہ اور اہل حق کا کہ
 ایک جلاہ اور اہل حق کے جلاہ کے جلاہ اور اہل حق کے جلاہ

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اب ڈراموں میں کام کرنے والے تمام مرد اور عورتیں شہوانی قبضہ میں نہ رہیں کہ یہی اداکار ہے کہیں گے

[illegible]

مصلوں کی ٹالس کی شادی کسی سکھ خاندان میں کرنا چاہتی تھی



انور، حامیوں اور مخالفین

انجسد خاں اپنے بھائی کی شادی میں شریک نہیں ہوئے

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میں نے اسے دیکھا تھا۔ وہ میری جہاں طوطیوں کو اپنا کر۔ عجیب کی بات ہے کہ انہوں نے اسے میرے جیسے ایک ایسے ملا۔ لوگوں کو بے وقتوں میں دیکھا تھا۔ کہا۔ وہ شان کا۔ یہ وہ ملا۔ یہ کہ

[illegible]

پڑھنا اور لکھنا سیکھنے کے لیے

پچاس ایکسٹری اداکاروں کو بلا ٹکٹ کشتیہ بھیج کر گرفتار کر دیا

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میر تقی میر نے جو کچھ لکھا ہے اس کا اندازہ اس کے ایک
غیر فنی لکھی ہوئی شادی کرلی ہے ویسے دوجہ آئینہ کی عکاسی دیتا ہے

مجتہد ائمہ کے حوالہ سے روایات فقہیہ کی گہرائی

[illegible]

پاکستان
سکسٹھ ورلڈ کپ ۱۹۸۷ء

[illegible]

د وڈو کے تصویب و
فرقہ تلاش کیے۔



فرقہ

تھوڑے سے ہونے

میں سے

دیر نادری کے ساتھ حبیبہ کوئی مگر کی طرف سے نکلتا ہے

گھر کی چوٹی پر چڑھ کر چشمن بھونڈا کی طرف سے نکلتا ہے

خود کشی جاواری چوٹی کی اسے عواشی اُڑانے سے ہر شے

ماسلی کا جاکٹ کی دیر نادری چوٹی پر بولی "جائے"

میں سے "جاواری چوٹی سے ہم جی جی چوٹی چوٹی چوٹی کے

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هكذا من العمل

New Zealand has little chance, say designers

ANNAPOLIS, MD., July 27. (Reuters) The designers of the yacht New Zealand yesterday held out little hope for a successful challenge against the San Diego Yacht Club in the America's Cup series in September.

Test runs of the massive monohulled New Zealand were encouraging, according to designers Russell Bowler and Bruce Farr, but Monday's court ruling that allowed San Diego to defend with a catamaran leaves the outcome in little doubt.

"From a design point of view, New Zealand has no chance against the Cat," Bowler said in a statement. "Some people say New Zealand could win in light air. But we know that a multihull can be fast in all conditions."

Improvements
"It won't be a match, but at least it will be a contest on the water."

Farr and Bowler said New Zealand would be ready to sail at her full potential after recent improvements.

Improvements aimed at increasing speed included the lengthening of the bowsprit and boom, installation of a smaller rudder to improve the helm and reduce drag and a new mast with flaps attached to streamline the shape, they said.

Meanwhile, British millionaire Peter de Savary has given up hope of racing against New Zealand in a series of America's Cup sail-offs, an aide said yesterday.

De Savary wanted to race against New Zealand for the right to challenge the San Diego Yacht Club for the America's Cup, but Michael Fay, in charge of the New Zealand challenge, has refused to race him.

"It's up to Fay," said De Savary spokesman David Redfern. "We can't race against him until he's agreed and as he hasn't, we can't race. It's a spoilsport attitude."

A New York judge ruled on Monday that although De Savary, Fay and the San Diego club had agreed in principle to the sail-offs, no enforceable contracts had been made.

Experience
"We're going to San Diego in early August in any case," said Redfern. "We're racing for the experience to battle-harden our crew for the next America's Cup."

"This is a long-term project. We didn't build the boat just to race against New Zealand this year."

Redfern said Fay's opposition to a challenger elimination series against a British boat centred on Blue Arrow, De Savary's new 65-foot (20-metre) foil-assisted monohull.

The craft has an 80-foot (24.4-metre) mast and a pencil-thin hull supported by hydrofoils set on wide arms, and its designers were confident it could not only win the America's Cup but also break the 38.6 knot world sailing speed record.

Fay has said the British craft is too unlike his own 90-foot (27.4-metre) boat.

"When we challenged Fay we told him our boat would be a sloop-rigged monohull within his specifications," said Redfern. "He agreed to race off against us. Now he's saying he'll only race against us if our boat is the same as his."

Details

Redfern said Fay started to change his mind about racing De Savary about five weeks ago when he found out more details about the Blue Arrow.

"But the US catamaran he's been told to race against isn't the same boat as his either," he said. "If he's racing a catamaran, I don't see why he shouldn't want to race us."

"He doesn't want to lose, I guess. Our boat is twice as fast as his and he knows it."

Six players suspended for 18 months

LONDON, July 27. (Reuters) Six out of the 12 English water polo players who made an unauthorized trip to play in South Africa earlier this year have been suspended for 18 months.

The ban was announced yesterday after a meeting of the southern counties Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) judicial tribunal.

The punishment represents the culmination of a five-months investigation by the ASA, who suspended water polo completely in England at the end of April in a bid to force the facts about the tour out into the open.

The ban was quickly lifted on events involving women, juniors and the lower divisions of the National League, but remained in force for senior events until the authorities had the evidence they required.

The ASA feared possible anti-apartheid action against the British Olympic swimming team.

AGASSI STRUGGLES PAST WEKESA

Lendl outplays Saceanu

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vermont, July 27. (AP) Top-seeded Ivan Lendl and No. 2 seed Andre Agassi both advanced last night to the second round of the Volvo international tennis tournament.

Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, defeated Christian Saceanu 6-4, 6-4, while Agassi, the top-ranked American men's tennis player, struggled past Paul Wekesa of Kenya 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

Agassi, playing his first tournament since Davis Cup in Argentina, had trouble adjusting to the hard surface and altitude at Stratton Mountain.

Sponges
"It's been tough adapting to everything, considering the last two months I've been playing has been on clay courts," Agassi said. "I just came back from Argentina, where it was sea level and the balls were using were like sponges. You can hit them as hard as you want, and they won't go anywhere."

"Now I come up to Stratton, where it's a hard court, and it's a change for me," he said. "It was almost impossible for me the first two and a half sets."

Agassi was ahead 5-2 in the third set when rain suspended



Lendl: tamed Saceanu

play for one hour. The 18-year-old, ranked fifth in the world, won the match two games later when Wekesa hit a ball long.

Lendl, the world's No. 1-ranked

player, applied his strong forehand to down Saceanu, a hard-hitting Romanian playing out of West Germany. Saceanu is ranked No. 70 in the world.

Playing his solid, methodical game, Lendl broke Saceanu midway through the first set and early in the second to win the match.

Saceanu, down 0-40 in the ninth game of the second set, survived three match points to cut Lendl's lead to 5-4. But Lendl took the next game easily, as Saceanu hit two shots into the net and Lendl placed a backhand shot cross court to win the match.

Also yesterday, unseeded Maliva Washington downed No. 11 seed Christo van Rensburg 6-2, 7-5 in the day's first upset.

Advanced
Van Rensburg was the fourth seeded player to lose in first-round play.

Six other seeded players advanced. No. 6 seed David Pate defeated qualifier Geoff Roper 6-1, 7-6 (7-3), while No. 9 seed Darren Cahill beat Kelly Evernden 6-3, 6-0.

No. 12 seed Dan Goldie defeated Gary Muller 7-6 (9-7), 6-3, and Paul Annacone, seeded 13th, ousted Paul Chamberlin 7-5, 7-5. No. 16 seed Jim Pugh advanced with a 7-5, 6-3 victory over John Ross, while No. 14 John Frawley defeated Rick Leach 6-4, 6-2.

Dodgers take Giants to task

NEW YORK, July 27. (AP) The Los Angeles Dodgers are double trouble on the road.

The Dodgers upped their National League West lead to seven games over Houston and eight over San Francisco last night by sweeping a doubleheader from the Giants, 7-3 and 6-5 in 11 innings. It was the fourth straight double victory for the Dodgers and their third doubleheader sweep on their current road trip, on which they are 11-4.

Overall, the Dodgers are 34-17 away from Los Angeles, a better record than any Major League team has at home this season. They are 25-23 at home.

"We lost the first doubleheader we played this year," Mike Scioscia recalled. "But we have a good ballclub, and we've showed our depth and versatility."

Witt to receive record fee

BERNE, Switzerland, July 27. (AP) Katarina Witt, East Germany's figure skating star, will command a record fee for her guest appearance at a European tour of the American-owned Holiday on Ice show, the show's managing director said yesterday.

"All I can say is that we never paid a skater that much money," F.A. Skee Goodhart said in a telephone interview, when asked for concrete figures.

Asked
"I would give you the figure because this makes the best publicity but the GDR (East Germany) asked that we should not make it public," he said.

"They are very low key about it." Asked about payments to other show stars, he said that Robin Cousins, Britain's Olympic gold medalist, drew \$15,000 to \$20,000 a week.

In the first game, Rick Dempsey sent Los Angeles ahead with a two-run homer in the seventh inning and Orel Hershiser got his 14th victory. Jeff Hamilton had a solo homer to spark a four-run ninth inning.

In the nightcap, Franklin Stubbs led off the 11th inning with a double and scored on a balk by reliever Scott Garrelts, his second run-scoring bulk of the night. Giants manager Roger Craig was ejected from the game for disputing the call.

Elsewhere, it was New York 7, Philadelphia 5 in a game delayed three hours, 25 minutes by rain delays; Montreal 8, Chicago 4 in 11 innings; Pittsburgh 2, St. Louis 1; and San Diego 5, Houston 1. Cincinnati split a pair with Atlanta, winning 3-2, then losing 2-1 in 10 innings.

Mets 7, Phillies 5
At Philadelphia, the Mets built

a 4-0 lead after a 77-minute delay before the game started. They blew that edge but won it as Kevin McReynolds singled in Len Dykstra, who had doubled in the seventh. Darryl Strawberry drove in Dykstra with a ninth-inning single. It was McReynolds' 10th game-winning hit this year.

Results	
American League	
New York	7 Milwaukee 2
Cleveland	3 Baltimore 3
Detroit	2 Kansas City 1
Minnesota	2 Toronto 1
(11) Chicago	1 Seattle 0
Texas	9 Boston 8
Oakland	6 California 2
National League	
(1) Cincinnati	2 Atlanta 2
(2) Atlanta	2 Cincinnati 1
Montreal	8 Chicago 4
New York	7 Philadelphia 5
(1) Los Angeles	7 San Francisco 3
(2) (1) L.A.	6 San Francisco 5
Pittsburgh	2 St. Louis 1
San Diego	5 Houston 1

Torino call back Muller

TURIN, Italy, July 27. (Reuters) First Division soccer club Torino recalled newly-signed World Cup striker Muller to Italy today after he was dismissed from the Brazilian squad for turning up late for a European tour.

Club officials said Muller had boarded a flight from Oslo, where the Brazilians play Norway tomorrow, and was expected back at the club later today.

Dismissal

Muller was dismissed from the touring squad when he joined a day late yesterday. Club officials said Torino decided to call him back to Italy because his dismissal meant the Brazilians no longer needed him.

Torino's sporting director Federico Bonetto said the club had only released Muller for the tour yesterday because "it was more than enough time to get to

Oslo and rest before the game."

He noted that Muller's contract with Torino did not bind the club to release him for international friendlies, like the games against Norway, Sweden and Austria.

The acting president of the Brazilian Football Association, Nabil Abi Chedid, told reporters in Rio de Janeiro Muller would not be released to join Torino as part of sanctions for his late arrival but Bonetto said the club had not been informed.

"We are not worried about this, not least because we have not received any official request from the Brazilian federation," Bonetto said.

Muller had played on the Brazilian team that won the biennial tournament in Australia, a round robin tournament against Argentina, Saudi Arabia and Australia.

UEFA upset by Heysel lawsuit

ZURICH, July 27. (Reuters) The ruling body of European soccer said yesterday that it was deeply disturbed by legal action for damages against its two top officials over the 1985 Heysel stadium riot in which 39 football fans died.

The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) executive committee issued a communiqué after a meeting in Zurich, pledging its full confidence in and solidarity with UEFA president Jacques Georges of France and secretary-general Hans Bangert of Switzerland.

They have been cited to appear in court in Brussels on October 17 on the basis of a lawsuit brought by about 100 Italian victims and their relatives, holding the city of Brussels and UEFA partly responsible.

Contradicted
The executive committee, saying it spoke in the name of UEFA's 35-member national soccer associations, said the citation of Georges and Bangert contradicted the conclusions of a judicial inquiry into the disaster.

Thirty-nine people, mainly Italians, were crushed to death at the 1985 Liverpool-Juventus European Cup final in Brussels' Heysel stadium, where English supporters attacked Italian fans.

The match was played under UEFA's auspices.

UEFA said the judicial inquiry raised no complaints or allegations of negligence against UEFA or its officials. It added that it had full confidence in Belgian justice.

The public prosecutor's office in Brussels said the Italian plaintiffs were seeking damages of between half a million and 15 million Belgian francs (\$14,000 and \$440,000).



Representatives from Albertville, CBS and IOC after the signing of the \$243 million contract. From left to right: Jankowski, Neal Pilson of CBC, Samaranch, Killy and Barnier. (Reuters wirephoto)

CBS get TV rights for Winter Games

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, July 27. (UPI) Triple gold medalist Jean-Claude Killy said he was elated yesterday as he put his signature to the \$243 million TV contract with the US network CBS for the 1992 Albertville Winter Games.

Killy, along with Michel Barnier who was also present at the signing ceremony, is co-president of the organising committee which will stage the Games in the French Alps.

Contract
Signing for CBS was managing director Gene Jankowski, while International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch and administrator Raymond Gafner signed for the IOC.

"The contract will provide us approximately the money we budgeted," said Killy, who won three ski gold medals at the 1968 Grenoble Olympics. However, the price for the exclusive US TV rights was \$66 million than ABC paid for Calgary last winter.

Jankowski said CBS raised the amount of the original bid to gain exclusive rights.

CBS last provided exclusive coverage on the Winter Games in 1960 when they were staged in Squaw Valley.

Barnier said the signing was a milestone towards financing the Games which, he said, will be staged as a spectacle at a high level.

At the same time, Gafner announced that the IOC executive committee gave swimmer Jens Peter Berndt the green light to compete for West Germany.

His status had been questionable, as he defected from the East German swimming team on Jan 7, 1985, and tried to become a US citizen. When his naturalisation process could not be sped up, he opted for West German citizenship, which was granted automatically. He will be one of the favourites in the 400 metres medley race.

Gafner noted that Berndt became a West German on the day of his defection and that the IOC has set a limit of three years for anyone switching his citizenship. "He is therefore eligible,"

Referring to news reports indicating North Korea may relit from its demands to co-organise the Seoul Olympics, Samaranch said: "I have no information from North Korea yet, but the policy of the IOC remains the same. The doors are open for an agreement with North Korea."

North Korea is one of six nations which have announced they will not compete in Seoul.

Samaranch said part of the IOC executive committee will fly to Seoul in the coming days for a pre-planned visit.

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SPORTS

RICHARDS AND LOGIE HIT HALF CENTURIES

Greenidge hammers Notts for ton



Greenidge: scored 101

NOTTINGHAM, England, July 27. (Reuters) Vice-captain Gordon Greenidge celebrated his return to the West Indies side with a splendid 101 on the first day of the tourists' three-day match against county champions Nottinghamshire today.

Greenidge hit 14 fours off 213 balls in a West Indies total of 321 for the loss of seven wickets by the end of the first day. Greenidge, who missed the fourth Test because of injury, proved today that he is in prime form for the fifth Test, which may well be his farewell international appearance in Britain.

Dominated
Greenidge was ably abetted by his captain Viv Richards who smashed a superb 75, including 12 boundaries.

Richards dominated the fourth wicket stand of 115 with Greenidge before he was caught off Barbadian fast bowler Franklin Stephenson.

New Zealand pace bowler Chris Cairns, son of former international Lance, captured two

good wickets: the first when he had Jeff Dujon leg before wicket when he had only scored 18 and the West Indies total stood at 42. The second came when he had Carl Hooper caught brilliantly down the leg side by a diving Chris Scott.

Gus Logie was also in a terrific mood today. He was the third West Indies player to complete at least a half-century. He was finally caught by Johnson off Mills.

Nottingham's third overseas player, South African David Callaghan, also enjoyed success when he bowled Keith Arthurton. Arthurton seemed to be batting with a lot of confidence before he missed the line of the ball to have his stumps uprooted.

West Indies had started the day with Richards winning the toss and electing to bat in order to get as much batting practice as possible before the fifth Test.

The batsmen responded well by putting on 108 for the loss of three wickets by the lunch interval. At lunch Greenidge was

unbeaten on 51 which included eight fours and came off only 91 balls in a total time of 123 minutes.

Fresh from thrashing England in the fourth Test at Headingley, the West Indies, with Greenidge recalled to open with Dujon, quickly settled into their stride and never let the Notts bowlers take the upper hand.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings	
G. Greenidge b Cooper	101
J. Dujon b Cairns	53
C. Hooper c Scott b Cairns	24
K. Arthurton b Callaghan	24
V. Richards c Scott b Stephenson	75
G. Logie c Johnson b Mills	53
R. Harper not out	20
D. Williams lbw b Stephenson	2
W. Benjamin not out	17
Extras (lb-10 w-2 nb-6)	18
Total (for seven wickets)	321
Fall of wickets: 1-42 2-56 3-108 4-223 5-265 6-303 7-306	

To bat: I. Bishop, R. Patterson. Nottinghamshire — T. Robinson, M. Newell, P. Johnson, D. Callaghan, D. Martindale, J. Birch, F. Stephenson, C. Scott, C. Cairns, K. Cooper, D. Mills.

Test teams face fines for slow play

BRISBANE, Australia, July 27. (Reuters) Australia and West Indies will be fined if they fail to bowl a minimum of 90 overs a day during their five-match Test series starting in November, the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) said today.

The West Indies have refused to bowl 90 overs a day since the ACB introduced the quota system in 1982-83. But the International Cricket Conference made the 90-over requirement an experimental law from April 1.

The ACB agreed on the fines during a two-day meeting which ended today.

Printed
The meeting also decided the West Indies, Pakistan and Australian teams would have their names printed on the backs of their shirts during next season's one-day World Series Cup in Australia.

Board chairman Malcolm Gray told journalists the board had been asked by Pakistan to take part in a system of umpire exchanges. Pakistani umpiring was criticised during England's last tour of the country.

WGW score 21-run win over Kheitan

WGW Cricketers scored a 21-run victory over Kheitan Cricket Club in the Amer Cricket Trophy match on Monday.

WGW, after winning the toss and electing to bat first, struggled in the first three overs putting on 17 runs for the loss of one wicket. Naeem and Iftikhar then put on 70 runs for the second wicket before the former was out for 31. Amjad came in and hit 23 quick runs as WGW put on 144 for the loss of four wickets in their allotted 19 overs.

Target
The wickets were shared by Raza, Dilawar and Qamar. Kheitan, chasing a target of 7.5 runs per over, put on 49 runs in the first eight overs but their wickets started to fall as soon as they attempted to accelerate the scoring rate.

Kheitan were only able to score 123 with Naeem taking three wickets.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Frank Bruno

LONDON, July 27. (Reuters) British Board of Control (Boxing) secretary John Morris is to fly to the United States tomorrow to help safeguard Briton Frank Bruno's position as number one challenger for Mike Tyson's undisputed world heavyweight boxing title.

Women's tennis

HAMBURG, West Germany, July 27. (AP) Laura Garrone of Italy upset ninth-seeded Judith Wiesner of Austria 6-2, 2-6, 7-5 in the first round of the \$200,000 Virginia Slims women's tennis tournament yesterday.

Muster wins

BORDEAUX, France, July 27. (AP) Thomas Muster of Austria led three seeded players Tuesday into the second round of the \$245,000 Grand Prix Passing Shot men's tennis tournament. The third-seeded Muster beat France's Thierry Champion, 6-1, 6-4.

Richards graduates as captain

LEEDS, England, July 27. (Reuters) Viv Richards, who had to learn the lessons of leadership with his West Indies cricket team in transition, has graduated as captain with a Test triumph of which his predecessor Clive Lloyd would have been proud.

Richards inherited Lloyd's all-conquering side early in 1985 but subsequently lost such key figures as Michael Holding, Joel Garner and Larry Gomes, and endured a comparatively unsuccessful period as the team redeveloped.

Potent

But at Headingley yesterday, West Indies confirmed that under Richards they were again a potent force with the potential to recall Lloyd's glittering era, completing a 10-wicket win in the fourth Test against England and taking a winning 3-0 lead in the five-match series.

It was not purely the margin of victory which underlined West Indies' superiority but also the fact that they won in the equivalent of three days, because of long stoppages for bad weather, and after scoring only 275 in their first innings.

Since their 5-0 clean sweep over England in the Caribbean at the start of 1986, West Indies have been held 1-1 in each of their subsequent four series — twice by Pakistan and once by New Zealand and India.

Richards' West Indies hinted at achieving both the right blend and team spirit during the three home Tests against Imran Khan's Pakistan earlier this year, when they squared the rubber by winning the last Test.

Richards seemed more at ease with the captaincy, an impression he sustained during the current series in which his players have vindicated the skipper's

faith in their greater ability over the five-day game.

England, with the exception of Allan Lamb and Graham Gooch, have simply been unable to come to terms with the West Indies' unrelenting fast bowling, spearheaded by the irresistible Malcolm Marshall.

Advice

Chairman of selectors Peter May believes England's problems — they are without a victory in their last 17 Tests — suggest a need to overhaul the English first-class game. Among his proposals is that each county should have only one overseas player — some register two or three.

But Richards, a Somerset player from 1974 until 1986, said after the Headingley victory: "My only advice to England is not to blame the overseas players in county cricket."

Spinks decides to quit

NEW YORK, July 27. (UPI) Heavyweight boxer Michael Spinks, a first round knockout victim of Mike Tyson last month, announced his retirement this morning.

Speaking to Charles Gibson on ABC's "Good Morning America" programme, Spinks said, "I'm going to hang them up. I went further than a lot of people expected. I outlasted a lot of people but that was the ultimate in matches."

Spinks, a former heavyweight champion, lasted only 91 seconds against Tyson in their ballyhooed bout at Atlantic City, New Jersey, on June 27.

Asked by Gibson if this was a real retirement, the 32-year-old

Spinks replied, "Maybe to stay controversial. I should semi-retire and then come back." He then added, "I doubt it, this is it for me."

Butch Lewis, his manager, appeared on the show with Spinks, wearing a jacket, bow tie and gold chain, but without a shirt. He announced that Spinks would join him at B.L. Productions, representing boxers, other athletes and entertainers.

"Michael has had an illustrious career," Lewis said. "He's going out without having to say the game forced him out. He's going out on his own free will. Now I can have him over there (at B.L.), with no shirt and a bow tie, hustling with me."



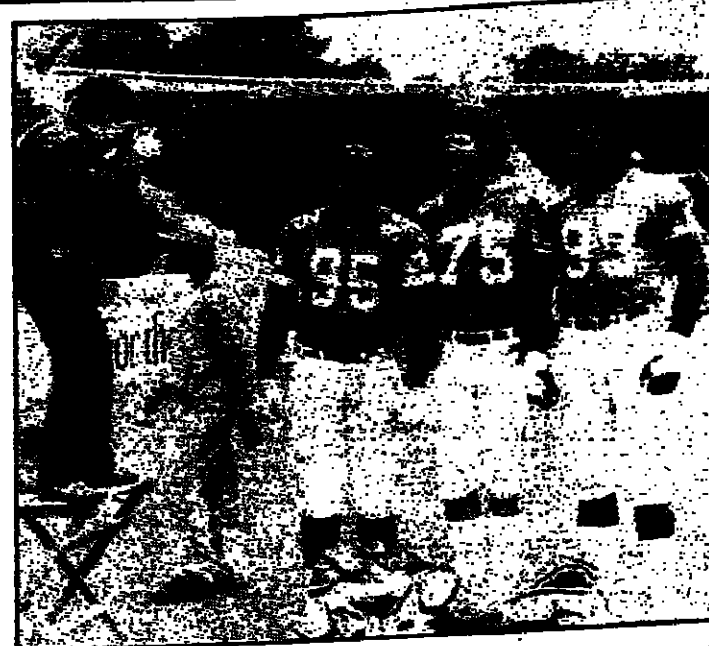
Viv Richards

Former champion

NEW YORK, July 27. (AP) Michael "Dynamite" Dokes, a former heavyweight champion, continues his comeback in a scheduled 10-round bout against Manuel Clay de Almeida of Brazil tomorrow at the Felt Forum.

It will be the sixth fight for Dokes, who will turn 30 years old on Aug. 10, since he resumed his career last Dec. 14. He had a 33-month layoff because of drug-related problems.

Dokes has a 34-1-2 record, with 21 knockouts. One of the knockout victories came when he stopped Mike Weaver in 63 seconds and won the World Boxing Association title on May 20, 1982.



A photographer stands on a table to get a picture of Dolphins' T.J. Turner (No. 95) Doug Batters (No. 75) and Charles Bennett. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dolphins and 49ers set for Wembley clash

LONDON, July 27. (AP) The British are billing it as another "Battle of the quarterbacks" and a rematch of the 1985 Super Bowl in which the San Francisco 49ers swept aside the Miami Dolphins 38-16.

To the coaches and the players, however, Sunday's encounter in the unfamiliar surroundings of Wembley stadium is just a pre-season practice with a difference.

The Dolphins and the 49ers square off at the home of English soccer in American Bowl III, the third annual clash of leading NFL teams which serves as a pre-season game for the teams and a showcase match for the swelling number of gridiron fans in Britain.

Amassed

The organizers and the British media couldn't help but make comparisons with Super Bowl XIX when the 49ers amassed a record-tying points score against the Dolphins and Joe Montana whipped Dan Marino in the bat-

tle of the quarterbacks. The two stars are set to line-up against each other at Wembley on Sunday and the Dolphins' head coach Don Shula admitted their clash is bound to be the eye-catching feature for the fans.

"That's the natural way to bill the game because you've got the No. 1 ranked quarterback of all time on one side and the No. 2 ranked quarterback of all time, Joe Montana, on the other side," Shula said.

"It's a natural billing but it's really not that simple," he told the British media at a pre-training session news conference at the Crystal Palace track stadium yesterday.

It's truly a team game in every sense of the word. It's more than one against one," Shula said.

Marino, who was sacked four times in that 1985 final at Stanford, Calif., said the Dolphins will be hoping for signs that the upcoming season promises more than the last two.

East German skating stars become magazine pin-ups

EAST BERLIN, July 27. (Reuters) East Germany, bringing a new commercial flavour to sport, has published a glossy magazine featuring the lives, loves and habits of retired ice queens Katarina Witt and Karin Kanai.

Looking for all the world like a Western fashion journal, the magazine Da Capo prints demure shots of Olympic and world figure skating champion Witt and one of speed skater Kanai in a bubble-filled bath with her baby son.

Sell

The one-off magazine is due to hit East German news kiosks in the next few days and sell for 3.80 marks (\$2), but Reuters obtained an advance copy from the Sportverlag publishing house. It will not be sold in the West.

Among the items guaranteed

to make the magazine a hot seller is an article on sport and sex which says top athletes do not need to live like monks.

Witt, who melted many a heart at this year's Calgary Olympics, confesses she finds it funny that her looks turn older men's heads and discloses she and East German pop star Ingo Politz are smitten with each other.

Apprentice beautician Kanai, who won two silvers and a bronze in Calgary, talks frankly about her first failed marriage and also poses somewhat awkwardly in swimsuits.

Both give their fashion, health and beauty tips.

A Sportverlag official told Reuters the Magazine was an ideal way to deal with a number of everyday topics through the medium of well-known sports personalities.

Sanchez sails past Shuzo in 1st round

HILVERSUM, Netherlands, July 27. (AP) Second-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain defeated Shuzo Matsuoka of Japan 6-3, 6-2 in the first round of the \$150,000 Netherlands Nabisco Grand Prix tennis tournament yesterday.

Third-seeded Claudio Mezzadri of Switzerland beat Gilad Bloom of Israel 6-4, 6-1 and fifth-seeded Mark Woodforde of Australia downed Yugoslav Marko Ostaja 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Ousted

In other first-round action at the Melkhuise Tennis Complex, West Germany's Paul Vojtesek ousted Branislav Stankovic of Czechoslovakia 6-2, 6-2; Pedro Rebolledo of Chile eliminated Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands 6-2, 6-2; and Argentine Eduardo Bengoechea, seeded eighth, topped Dutchman Menno Oosting 6-1, 6-3.

RESULTS of the Hubara Centre Bridge Club game held on Saturday:
N/S
1. Diab & Dr Omar
2. Blackwell & Gibb
3. Mukerjee & Chandhry
E/W
1. Pereira & D'Souza
2. Jean & Camille Akel
3. Simon & Aurora
Results of the Sheraton Bridge

held on Tuesday.
N/S
1. Ibrahim Alqattan & Marcel Zamaniri
2. Mr & Mrs Alain Moussalli
3. Mrs Dona Matterney & Dr Adel Baymouni
E/W
1. Dr Henryk Szul & Robert Stucker
2. K.T. Simon & Dhruba Mukerjee
3. Mohammed Merchant & Dr Sankara Reddy
A marathon bridge will be held tomorrow at 3.00 pm at the Sheraton Hotel.

Spinks: retiring



All the vehicles parked opposite the Pullman Hotel, in Kuwait.

By Lima Al Khalafawi

A TOTAL of 31 vehicles comprising 65 French participants of the Paris-Peking Rally 1988 arrived in Kuwait on Tuesday on their way to Karachi.

The rally is not a competition as all participants move in a group and there will be no placings at the finish.

"The rally is considered a revival of the old Yellow Cruiser Rally of 1931, the first European Citroen expedition to cross from Beirut to China," said a participant Marie Christine Bertrand.

She disclosed that the Yellow

Cruiser was unable to complete the final stage at the Himalayas due to rugged terrain and mechanical problems 200 km before Gilgit in Pakistan.

Alan Lefeuvre, the organiser of the present rally, assembled 65 participants for the present team which comprises 25 small cars — Renault 5 and Peugeot 205, one truck, 4 Cherokee Jeeps and 4 Toyotas. The team includes 50 drivers, 15 TV personnel and journalists, one doctor and supportive mechanical personnel.

Marie said that the team was successfully able to finish most of the 35 rally stages which started on July 12 from France to Venice, Dubrovnik in Yugoslavia

crossing through Salonica in Greece and Istanbul. The team also crossed Damascus and Jordan. Their last route prior to arriving in Kuwait on July 27 was through Baghdad and Babel in Iraq.

Marie, describing the progress through different stages of the 18,000 km rally, said that all went smoothly, except in Yugoslavia where the team had to go through the mountainous roads full of dangerous turns from Dubrovnik to Skopje on their way to Salonika in Greece.

She disclosed that the team was obliged to use the narrow road to reach their destination in Greece. An additional problem



Two of the participants. (Photos by Raad Outtama)

which had to be overcome was the hot weather from Amman to Baghdad she added.

Marie who is also the organiser at China stage said that their main challenge is between Karimabad in Pakistan till Kashgar in China — a distance of 600 km where they will have to ensure reserve fuel for each car due to the difficulty of obtaining it in that area.

Marie, who is acquainted with such problems having previous experience in three rallies in China, added, that 200 telexes were sent for this rally stage in

China to assure smooth operations.

She disclosed that the rally is self-financed with moral support from the FIDEPS Association of the UNESCO towards the participants, who are under 30 years of age. The rally team is expected to leave Kuwait on Aug 1 she added.

From Kuwait, which is a transit stage to Karachi, the team is planning to ship their cars to Karachi through Shuwaikh port.

Marie appreciated the friendly welcome of the authorities at the borders in Abdali.

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